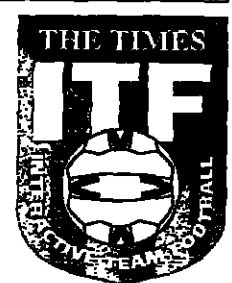
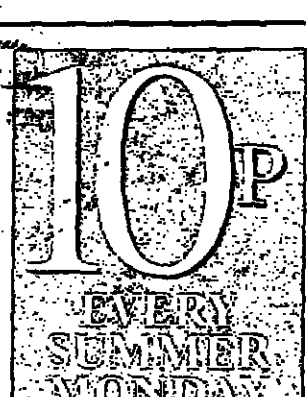


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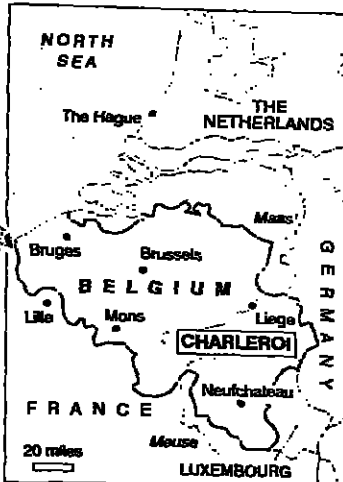


SECTION 3
 How to get back into the university game: 14-page up to the minute guide to degree courses



Hunt for victims of child sex ring

Man held as Belgian police find two bodies under patio



FROM ROGER BOYES IN CHARLEROI

BELGIAN police are convinced they are on the trail of a gang of murderous paedophiles after discovering the bodies of two eight-year-old girls at the weekend. The bodies, trussed and folded into blue plastic sacks, were dug up in the back garden of Marc Dutroux, a 34-year-old jobless electrician, in the southern Belgian village of Sars-la-Buissière. At least six more children may have been victims of the child sex network centred on the city of Charleroi, according to Michel Bourlet, the prosecutor. The authorities are searching for more

bodies of abused and missing children at various locations. Mr Bourlet says that at least seven victims have been cruelly treated and killed since 1989. The two eight-year-olds had apparently started to die. Mr Bourlet said yesterday that Mr Dutroux had locked them up while he was detained by police in a separate investigation and had given them money for food and drink. By the time he was freed in February, Mr Dutroux is said to have told interrogators, the child-

ren had died. Another corpse — believed to be an adult male accomplice who wanted to betray Mr Dutroux — was also excavated from under the tiled patio in Mr Dutroux's garden. The scene in Sars-la-Buissière yesterday was reminiscent of the search for bodies at the Clouster house of Fred and Rosemary West, with blank-faced, rubber-gloved forensic scientists, a policeman choking back tears, an angry crowd, and the loud hum of mechanical diggers. The Belgian press was quick to

describe the terraced building as a "house of horror", but, as in the case of the Wests, there was nothing remarkable about the narrow building and its small garden, nor about Mr Dutroux and his trim blonde second wife, Michelle Martin. They have two young children, the eldest three years old. Neighbours could not recall screams or suspicious comings and goings. "It makes you think about all the missing children, doesn't it?" said one of the calmer spectators, a 50-year-old postmistress. "They disap-

pear and you think: they are ill, they are lost, they will come back. Instead, they may be in a hole." Police stumbled on the trail of Mr Dutroux almost by accident. A passer-by noted the number of his van when he allegedly snatched Laetitia Delheze, a 14-year-old girl, as she was walking back from a swimming pool on August 4. The number was traced and a lengthy interrogation began. Police found Laetitia and Sabine Dardenne, 12, who had been missing for about three months, in a makeshift concrete dungeon in the

basement of the house near Charleroi. Mr Dutroux showed police a hidden entrance to the cubbyhole. The girls were not seriously injured, but the parents of Laetitia say she was raped. Both girls were drugged and sexually abused. Mr Dutroux and an alleged accomplice, Michel Letievre, have been charged with kidnapping and illegal imprisonment of children. Mr Dutroux's wife will appear in court today to hear the charges against her. The electrician took the detectives to his back garden after they questioned him about other cases of missing children. Few doubt the claims of *La Dernière Heure*. Continued on page 3, col 1

Ministers split over ID card squabbles

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND RICHARD FORD

MICHAEL HOWARD is facing a backlash among Conservative backbench MPs angered that the Union Jack might be dropped from the national identity card to avoid offending nationalists in Northern Ireland.

The final details of the voluntary card have yet to be agreed after days of Whitehall infighting over the EU and UK symbols which will appear on the small plastic document.

Home Office sources last night blamed the Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, for agreeing to allow the EU flag to be included on the new driving licence which will be combined with the identity card.

The sources claimed that Sir George, an ardent pro-European, had already agreed that the distinctive flag of 12 gold stars against blue background should be on the licence. His move had left the Home Secretary with no room to manoeuvre on getting it removed.

Mr Howard's move to place the Union Jack alongside the EU flag was blocked by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, who warned that flags were a highly sensitive issue in the province.

Instead the Royal Crest is the most favoured option to appear alongside the EU flag. But the move has infuriated Conservative backbenchers, who accused the Government of giving into nationalists and Dublin.

David Wilshire, the vice-chairman of the Tory backbench Northern Ireland committee, said: "It is staggering. It shows the extent to which the Government is prepared to appease and sell out

to Dublin. The English will not tolerate being told that we cannot display our UK status because a few hundred thousand people will not like it." Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, said: "This is our national flag and if people don't want to live in this country they can get out."

Mr Howard had planned to announce the Government's intention to bring in a voluntary scheme today but the launch has been delayed because of the Whitehall battle. Now John Major is expected to settle the dispute.

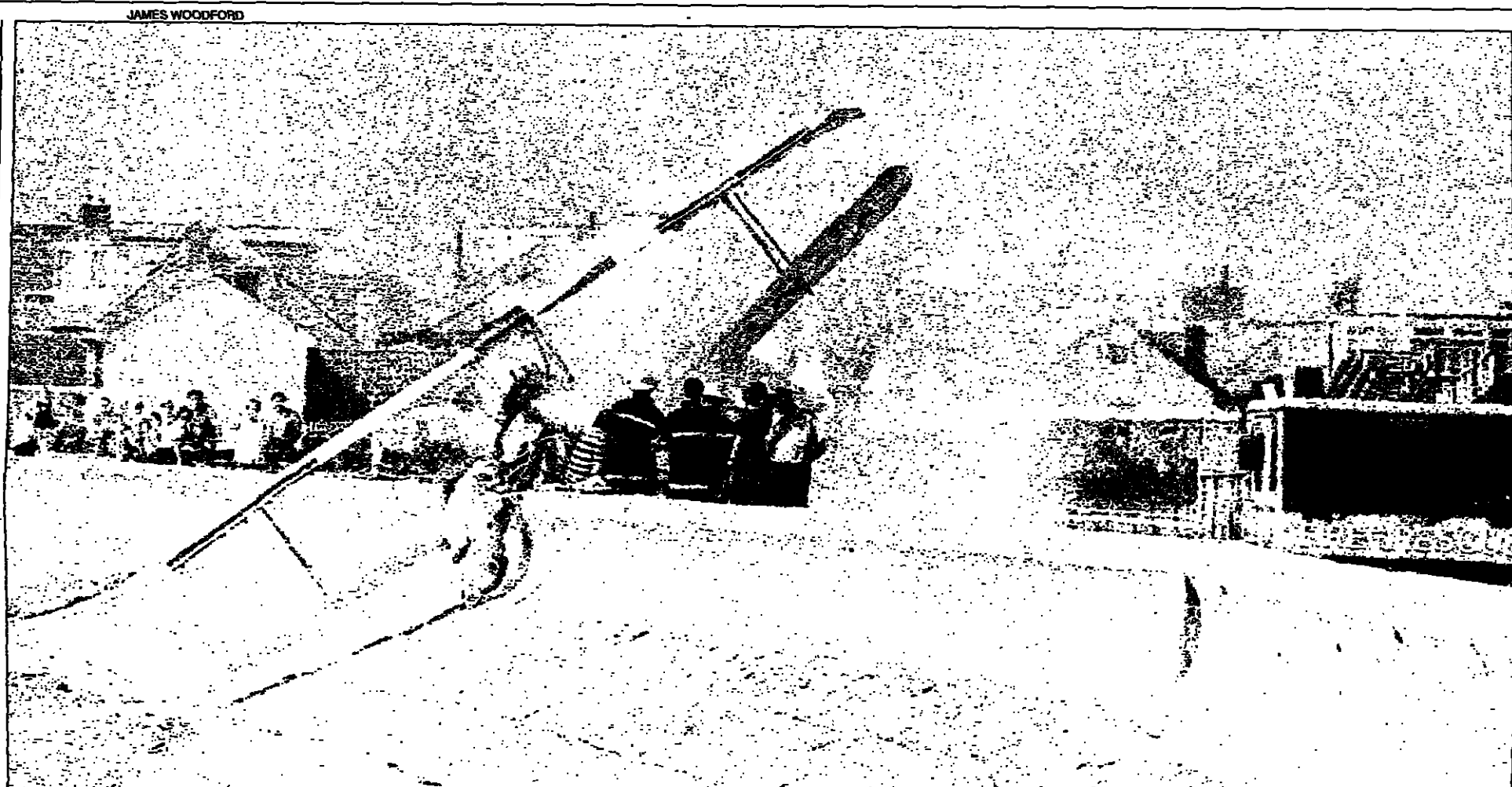
The Prime Minister, who returned from holiday yesterday, has been kept closely informed while abroad and will be involved in last-minute discussions this week.

Mr Major is anxious to prevent the dispute over the appearance of the card delaying or overshadowing the launch of a scheme that has already attracted vehement opposition from Tories. Mr Howard was jeered when he unveiled his plans for a voluntary scheme at the Tory party conference in 1994.

Leading article, page 19



"You'll never catch me walking around with one of them"



Joan McInerney, 65, was trapped for an hour under this Tiger Moth after it crash-landed on the promenade at Jaywick, Essex, yesterday. Mrs McInerney, who had been walking her dog, was taken to hospital with serious head, leg and chest injuries. The pilot, Joan Parry, 45, who was flying to a rally in Woburn, Bedfordshire, had only minor injuries

Students compete for fewer places

BY JOHN O'LEARY

TENS of thousands of students will be competing for fewer university places than at any time since a single system was established when the clearing process for rejected applicants opened today.

For the first time, more than 200,000 higher education places have been filled before clearing begins. Universities are expected to make offers to up to 60,000 more candidates this week, leaving the opportunities for second-chance applications down by a quarter.

Tony Higgins, the Chief Executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, said that record A-level results and a reduction in the number of initial choices had contributed to the speedier allocation of places.

Course guide, Section 3

British magnate's son shot dead in Honduras

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

WILLIAM WATES, 19, son of Andrew Wates, the multimillionaire builder and part-owner of Rough Quest, this year's Grand National winner, has been shot dead in Honduras. Police believe the young Briton was waylaid by robbers at Arenales, near Danli, 50 miles east of Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital. His body was found beside a road last Thursday.

Mr Wates had been travelling in South and Central America for four months after spending two months with World Challenge, a voluntary organisation in Ecuador. Detectives in Honduras are seeking two men thought to have left a hotel in Danli.

The youngest of five brothers, William Wates was a pupil at Radley College and took a year off school before

studying ancient history at Nottingham University. His father is chairman of Wates Leisure and a director of Wates Building Group, the family construction firm. He and Tim, 30, his eldest son, are flying to Honduras today.

The family learnt of the young man's murder on Friday. As his mother Sarah was being comforted by friends, Mr Wates, 55, went ahead with plans to host a previously scheduled open day for employees at Henfold House, his country mansion in the Surrey Downs near Beare Green, Dorking.

As he entertained staff, none of whom knew of the tragedy, he said: "William had a great future ahead of him. We will all miss him desperately. This news has come as a terrible shock to us. William was a

much loved son and brother, with a wide circle of friends. We spoke to him last Sunday — he was having a marvellous time and looking forward to coming home. It is hard to imagine a more enthusiastic, more likeable, happier, kinder person. He had a gift for friendship."

Mr Wates, a prominent figure in the racing community, rode in the 1968 Grand National and won the Foxhunters at Aintree. He is a close friend of the Royal trainer Ian Balding, and takes an active part in preparing horses at the Henfold House stables, where Rough Quest was trained.

He praised the British Ambassador in Honduras, but said details of the incident were still scant: "I'm still not

Continued on page 2, col 6

Thou shalt not steal from the collection plate

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
 RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

NEW accounting rules are to be sent to all vicars to make it harder for them to break the eighth commandment: "Thou shalt not steal."

The Church of England has decided that clergy should not be led into temptation by the haphazard and idiosyncratic accounting methods that have sprung up in many of the 13,000 parishes in England. Collections will no longer be en-

trusted to individuals to count — an independent party will be present to check the figures — while proper systems will also be demanded for signing cheques, paying into banks and opening envelopes containing cash. The change is designed to prevent cases such as one reported this year, where a vicar and churchwarden were accused of stealing more than £7,000.

The Church has also decided to change the way parochial church councils, which manage their local

church, run their finances. Although church councils need not register as charities, they are in effect charitable bodies and as such are to be brought into line with new legislation on accountability in the 1993 Charities Act. Although there is no evidence of widespread fraud, church managers concede that vicars or their staff occasionally do succumb. The problem has arisen because the management of church councils has until now depended on trust.

Parishioners assume that their of-

ferings will be used for the purposes for which they were given. But in a world where the pressure for financial achievement has never been greater, church leaders acknowledge that temptation can prove hard to resist. Brian McHenry, a barrister and a leading lay member of the General Synod, who helped to initiate the changes, said he knew of few cases of outright fraud. "But transparency is critical. People want to know that when they are giving money, it is being handled in the proper way."

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How Gazza's wonder goal beat the Scots



WEDNESDAY

STYLE

The square person's guide to clubbing



SPORT

Terry Venables on that penalty shoot out with the Germans

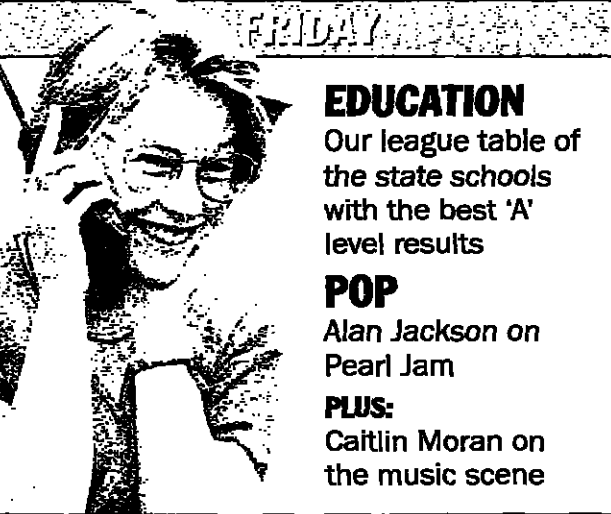
THURSDAY



FILMS

Geoff Brown reviews Schwarzenegger's blockbuster 'Eraser'

FRIDAY



EDUCATION

Our league table of the state schools with the best 'A' level results

POP

Alan Jackson on Pearl Jam

PLUS: Caitlin Moran on the music scene

SATURDAY



FASHION

Iain R. Webb focuses on the latest Donatella Versace creations in the Magazine

Spy successes put IRA on the defensive

By MICHAEL EVANS AND STEWART TENDLER

THE IRA has begun one of its most far-reaching internal investigations under a series of damaging undercover operations by the security authorities, according to intelligence sources yesterday.

The IRA's "Engineering Department", which is responsible for developing bomb-making techniques, has been undermined by recent operations and new weapons have been seized. A recent raid by police in the Irish Republic uncovered a significant manu-

facturing and storage depot. The Garda believes it halted the depot's operations before any of the new devices could be delivered to terrorist cells. A man suspected of being the former head of the "Engineering Department", which is part of the IRA's general headquarters staff, was recently arrested by the Garda but released.

The IRA's investigation is being carried out by its so-called "Security Department", also known as the "Civil Administration Section". Police and other security sources believe that certain arrests

An escaped IRA terrorist was back behind bars in Northern Ireland last night after Britain won a four-year legal fight to extradite him from the United States. Jimmy Smyth was flown from San Francisco on Saturday night in the custody of an RUC officer and will now serve the last 15 years of his 20-year sentence for the attempted murder of an off-duty prison guard in Belfast. Smyth was one of 38 inmates who escaped from the Maze in 1983 and claimed he would face persecution if returned to Ulster. Three others have also been fighting extradition.

and the discovery of large caches of arms and equipment in the republic and London have disrupted what was planned to be a continuous bombing campaign on the

mainland, beginning with the huge bomb explosion at South Quay in London's Docklands on February 10. Although the IRA has demonstrated that it has the ability to overcome

setbacks, the capture of such large stocks of weapons and the disruption of the terrorists' supposedly secure organisational structure are expected to have a long-lasting impact. There have been reports of numerous IRA cells lying low on the mainland.

However, it is known that the organisation has recently switched tactics. Instead of deploying units of young and relatively inexperienced bombers, IRA leaders turned to more senior activists to continue the attacks.

A senior security source said: "We're still effectively in

the middle of an IRA bombing campaign on the mainland, even though there have been no incidents in recent weeks."

The IRA's seven-man "army council" is expected to pursue a twin-track strategy, protecting the organisation's assets but also showing it is still in business. Although the organisation appears to be lying low on the mainland, police remain on the alert for another "spectacular" attack. One police source said: "They will want to show they can still do things, for the benefit of the British Government and also for their own people."

Conservatives to appeal to economic winners

Tories drop attempt to win back 'Essex Man'

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Tory strategists are preparing to ditch past election tactics aimed at wooing "Essex Man" in a final effort to win back lost voters in marginal constituencies.

Baroness Thatcher's strategy of trying to win over skilled workers in the C2 socio-economic group is to be replaced by a broader campaign to attract voters who fear that they could lose out under a Labour government.

Tory strategists are also anxious to target female voters more effectively, after polls suggested that the greatest drop in support for the party since the last general election has been among women.

Under plans to be announced next month to cut Labour's huge lead in the opinion polls, Tory strategists are preparing an onslaught of campaigning literature and advertisements centred on politically pivotal regions such as the West Midlands, the North West, and London, which contain many key marginal seats. One senior strategist said the campaign "needs to be broader than in the past. We will target parents of children at grant-maintained schools, those who have private medical insurance or members of a particular trade or profession in an attempt to

underline the benefits of a Tory government. "The 'Essex Man' idea was exaggerated but it was useful to define those we needed to attract. The next campaign needs to be more accurately defined. We now have much more information about people that allows us to use direct-mailing more effectively and to target particular groups."

M & C Saatchi, the agency that produced last week's much criticised advertisements depicting Tony Blair with "demonic" eyes, is discussing with senior Tories plans for a "target audience". Campaigns in marginal constituencies will be supplemented by targeting areas in which many new jobs have been created under Tory rule.

Tory and Labour leaders recognise that the support of skilled workers, especially those that are self-employed, widely portrayed as the Basilidon Man who helped secure four Tory election victories, is not enough to win the next election. Pollsters suggest that the C2 group, which made up one third of the electorate in 1979, has shrunk to little more than a fifth.

"We have to be more radical than trying to lump voters into one category based on earnings," said one Tory source



Thatcher: focused on the C2 voters

yesterday. "The idea of a Basilidon man or Worcestor Woman or whatever is simplistic nowadays and we have to refine our tactics. Many people who claim to have deserted us are still nervous about Labour; we have to make clear there is a difference between us."

The Tories came under further attack over the advertisement portraying Mr Blair as having red, demonic eyes.

Hacker adds porn and mockery to Major's Internet message

PORNOGRAPHIC pictures and offensive comments have been broadcast on the Internet under the Tory logo.

Conservative Central Office has begun an investigation into how the material appeared on a page carrying information about York University Conservative and Unionist Association.

Pornographic photographs were displayed on the page, which can be read by millions of computer users worldwide, alongside a welcome to the university. They

were accompanied by the Prime Minister's signature and the caption "John Major's favourite pictures".

Reports of the student society's meetings were altered to include calls for Mr Major's execution by firing squad and visits to Conservative students by Hitler and Mussolini. Details of the association committee's trip to a London conference were altered to suggest that it had involved visits to sex shops and prostitutes.

A message from Mr Major

was changed so that the Prime Minister appeared to refer to himself as a "has-been" and a "professional liar" and to admit that "I have presided over the greatest betrayal of our homeland since God knows when".

A Central Office spokesman said: "This is a serious matter. We have spoken to the university and they are as concerned as we are. They will move to deal with the problem. We hope that investigation will shed light on who tampered with the site."

Robert Blake, page 18

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sunshine brings worst tailbacks of the year

Beaches were crowded yesterday as much of the country enjoyed temperatures ten degrees higher than normal. Roads to most resorts were jammed as temperatures reached an estimated high of 31C (88F). The RAC said the sunshine had created the worst weekend queues of the year.

The London Weather Centre forecast even hotter weather today, with some thunderstorms. Only western parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland missed out yesterday with cloudy, cooler weather. Some of the outer islands even had rain. Forecast, page 22

MP in neighbour case

Ken Maginnis MP, the Ulster Unionist spokesman on security, has been questioned by police after an allegation that a 65-year-old neighbour in Belgrave was punched during a dispute over late-night noise. The Metropolitan Police said yesterday that a report had been sent to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Police to carry CS sprays

Police in England and Wales are to carry CS sprays while on patrol. The move, to be announced on Wednesday, comes after a six-month trial in which the French-made spray has helped officers to disarm attackers. An interim report seen by police chiefs and Home Office officials found no evidence of long-term damage to health.

Islanders fight sale

The Hebridean island of Eigg goes on sale today for £2 million, a week before the 63 islanders launch their own appeal to buy it in partnership with the Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust. They are expected to apply for lottery cash. The German artist Martin Eckhard Maruma bought Eigg 15 months ago for £1.6 million.

Grate work of art saved



A painting by a leading 19th-century British artist could be worth up to £10,000 after being restored following its use as a fireplace draught excluder. The sunset by Francis Danby, leader of the Bristol School of Painting, was blackened with soot after being wedged in a chimney. It will be revalued on BBC's Antiques Roadshow on Sunday.

Sentencing remains regional lottery despite guidelines

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SENTENCING remains a lottery with huge variations between courts in different parts of the country as to how often they jail offenders, according to a survey published today.

It finds that despite three sets of guidelines to courts on sentencing since 1989, inconsistency is still widespread, ranging from 2.4 per cent to 10.5 per cent across England and Wales. Courts in the constituencies of Michael Howard, Home Secretary, and Anne Widdecombe, Home Office minister, are softer than courts in the opposition spokesmen's constituencies.

The survey, by the National Association of Probation Officers, found that someone convicted in the magistrates' courts is seven times more likely to be jailed in Chesterfield than Wakefield and four times more likely to receive probation in Huddersfield than at Bow Street in London.

The figures, from 1994, show that a person is more likely to receive a community penalty in Folkestone or Maidstone, the constituencies of Michael Howard and Anne Widdecombe, than in Blackburn, constituency of the Labour home affairs spokesman, Jack Straw.

The crown courts were less inconsistent than magistrates, jailing 40 per cent of offenders at Woolwich compared to 60 per cent at Luton — a narrowing of the range by five

percentage points since 1988. But magistrates were also inconsistent in the length of sentence imposed. For all indictable offences, the national average was 3.2 months, but courts varied from 4.5 months in Swansea to 2.1 months in Blackpool.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of NAO, said: "The various attempts to reduce inconsistencies in magistrates' courts since 1989 have not thus far worked. Sentencing remains a geographical lottery. It is difficult to understand why a person is three times more likely to be jailed in Tameside than neighbouring Trafford or why they are twice as likely to be jailed in South Sefton than Liverpool."

Water firms may be forced into sharing

By ROBIN YOUNG

WATER companies could be forced to share supplies during drought, even when it is not in their commercial interests, under new powers sought by the Environment Agency.

The quango has also suggested to the House of Commons select committee on the environment that it should have powers to oblige companies to supply it with their contingency plans for dealing with shortages and to provide their water-resource plans for the future.

A spokesman for the Water Services Association, representing nine of the major companies, said: "If the Environment Agency brings forward detailed proposals, we will have to consider them, but

a lot of co-operation goes on already. It pre-dates privatisation by decades."

Wessex Water shares access to South West Water's Wimble Ball reservoir in Devon, Severn Trent is investing to supplement its resources with supplies from Rutland Water, in the Anglian area.

Folkestone and Dover Water Services, a subsidiary of the French Compagnie Generale des Eaux, is negotiating to bring extra supplies from France through the Channel Tunnel's cooling pipes. The water would be supplied by two independent firms in the Calais area.

Kent is the part of Britain most seriously affected by water shortages at present.

Briton shot in Honduras

Continued from page 1

altogether sure what happened. I've been receiving information from the Foreign Office, but I'm going to fly out there to try to establish exactly what took place."

The Foreign Office issued renewed guidance on Honduras to travellers on July 6, pointing out that "the incidence of violent crime, including armed robbery, burglary and assault continues to rise". The guidance differed little from earlier warnings in force when William would have left Britain earlier this year, a Foreign Office spokesman said.

During the Central American wars of the 1980s, the small, peasant hamlet of Arenales in the southern Honduran province of El Paraiso, was a no-go area with a reputation for violence (David Adams writes).

Several hours by twisting gravel and dirt roads from Danli, the provincial capital, local peasants eke out a living from small cash crops of coffee and tobacco. Situated in a remote, mountainous region of the Honduras-Nicaragua border, Arenales was the scene of CIA covert operations to build up the rebel anti-Sandinista Contra army in the early 1980s, infiltrating small commando units into Nicaragua.

Until the war ended in 1990, the wooded mountain valleys of El Paraiso province were dotted with a string of regional command camps where Contra troops bivouacked between incursions. On off-duty nights, the Contra military leaders earned a reputation for hard drinking, and hell-raising in local villages where they went in search of beer and local prostitutes. Many a drunken

brawl ended in violent exchanges of machete blows or pistol fire.

Uncooperative peasants, and some suspected of being Sandinista spies, were "disappeared" into the Honduran night by Contra death squads. Only after the war ended in 1990 was the dangerous border road eastwards from Danli reopened to local traffic and development workers who have tried to rebuild the local economy.

Each year more than half a million Britons go backpacking abroad, often in remote areas far from the tourist trail. Many, like William Waters, are students taking a year off between school and university.

Parents often oppose the choice of destination of their offspring, but can do little to stop the instinct for exploration and adventure.

"When you have found the shrubbery, then you must cut down the mightiest tree in the forest...with a herring!"

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John Miles

Belgian paedophile case highlights an international business involving 200 gangs in Britain alone



Two months after she was kidnapped, Sabine Dardenne, 12, is helped into a police car before being reunited with her parents. She was found with Laetitia Delheze, 14, who had been abducted on August 9

A sinister global enterprise of malign ingenuity

By RICHARD FORD

THE discovery in southern Belgium of the bodies of children in the garden of a convicted paedophile has highlighted the sinister multimillion-pound business of worldwide child sexual abuse. It is a global enterprise involving paedophile rings, child sex tourism preying on pre-pubescent children in the Far East, hardcore porn videos and abduction.

In Britain alone police estimate there are two hundred paedophile rings that allow people to swap

child pornography and even children themselves. The National Criminal Intelligence Service has information on about 4,000 convicted or suspected paedophiles.

Most of the rings contain up to five individuals, usually men but sometimes women, and modern technology has allowed them to spread their networking worldwide on the Internet.

Paedophiles can network within jails or after infiltrating schools, children's homes and other organisations working with young people. Once employed in the organisations they exchange infor-

mation about "available" children to other rings either abroad, where child prostitution is rife, or inner cities, where children are on the streets.

Within the rings paedophiles exchange photographs, contact magazines and addresses. Chief Superintendent Brian Mackenzie, president of the Police Superintendents' Association, said yesterday: "They operate like any other special interest group. Networks and rings form by word of mouth."

"Individuals will exchange pornography and quite often they will pass compliant juveniles between

groups. The whole thing spreads out and it is difficult for the police to break down."

The networks can be very complex and in one case children who ran away from homes were lured to London by a "safe" name and address, forced into a paedophile ring and as they got older were made to abuse recent arrivals. The aim is to turn the child into a perpetrator, making it less likely that the ring will be broken by a complaint to the police.

Paedophiles are frequently obsessive and meticulous organisers. Mr Mackenzie added: "They are

prolific organisers and paedophilia is an obsession involving a lot of planning and plotting against their victims."

In some rings paedophiles will use abducted children for the making of home-made videos of sex acts. Videotapes of children taking part in sexual activity with middle-aged men can fetch up to £250 each.

Technological developments are also helping paedophiles and child pornographers to preserve their secrecy and escape justice. Alarm has grown within the police that they are using new encoding tech-

niques allowing them to contact each other without outside knowledge.

They post pornography on the Internet together with instructions on how to use encryption to safeguard themselves. Films and still pictures can be transmitted through the system, which links home computers via phone lines. Paedophiles' network across the world to exchange information and experiences. In "Operation Stardust" last year, police discovered pictures on the Internet of children as young as three involved in sexual acts. Three main types of

paedophile have emerged: the offender who seduces pre-pubescent children with attention and gifts over a period of time; the introverted offender who is likely to abuse strangers or young children and the sadistic offender.

The malign ingenuity with which paedophiles attempt to gain access to children was shown last month when Steven Roy Mitchell, 44, from Walton-on-Thames, became the first Briton to be convicted in the Philippines under a law aimed at ending the country's reputation as a haven for paedophiles. Mitchell was jailed for 17 years.

Prayers and blame over nation's lost innocents

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN CHARLEROI

FROM the church of St Christopher to the church of Our Lady, the distressed burghers of Charleroi were on their knees yesterday praying for the safety of their children.

As mechanical diggers carved out holes in the back garden of Marc Dutroux in the search for more corpses, so the citizens of Charleroi began to take stock.

"It is the worst disaster since the Bois du Cazier," said 60-year-old Mireille Dumont, comparing the new horror to the biggest mining disaster in the Belgian Black Country. More than 250 died in 1956, scarring the memories of a generation.

That disaster also happened in a hot August. This time the death toll is far lower, but again the whole community feels as if everyone is affected.

Everybody knows the names of the two eight-year-olds, Julie and Mélissa, dug up from the garden. For 14 months, their parents have plastered the pictures of these two children on bridges and stuck posters on walls in railway stations and supermarkets. The slogan said "Mélissa and Julie SOS", with a telephone number.

Local people yesterday lined up to place flowers on the doorsteps of the parents whose houses were shuttered in mourning. Schools are still on holiday, but the children have begun to return to the city and, in an ineffectual gesture, many parents are confining them to their houses.

Despite the arrest of Mr Dutroux and his alleged accomplice, there is still a deep feeling of unease. Henri Trousson, a barman, said: "This is something fundamental. A city has somehow failed its children."

The failure is almost inevitably laid on the shoulders of the police. The list of disappearing children is a long one, as if a benighted Pied Piper had somehow lured them all away and into a distant mountain.

But in this dark, heavily industrialised city, full of smoke and circled by disused coalpits, it was always easier to concentrate on keeping jobs than on the needs of the younger generation.



Flowers hanging on a poster of two missing girls



Marc Dutroux and, below, the house of secrets



Hunt for sex ring victims

Continued from page 1
newspaper that a network of paedophiles has been at work. Police have raided 11 houses and detained three more people. "Books by the Marquis de Sade and a number of video tapes were seized during one of the raids," said one Belgian journalist close to the police.

Mr Dutroux and his alleged accomplices appear to have had a large number of houses. Two of the young girls —

Julie Lejeune and Mélissa Russo — disappeared 14 months ago. Their parents have travelled the world following tip-offs about their whereabouts, including a visit to South America. Yet both Mr Dutroux and Michelle Martin — who denies involvement in any crime — were on the police computers. According to newspaper reports, Mr Dutroux was jailed for 13 years in 1989 on kidnapping, rape and sexual abuse, while

his wife was imprisoned for six years. Three years later they were freed and living again in the Charleroi area. Although Mr Dutroux was questioned by police in a separate case last winter, he was freed without charge. Some of the seven bodies unearthed were killed as long ago as 1989. Belgians are outraged that the couple were not more thoroughly investigated when the two eight-year-olds disappeared in June 1995.



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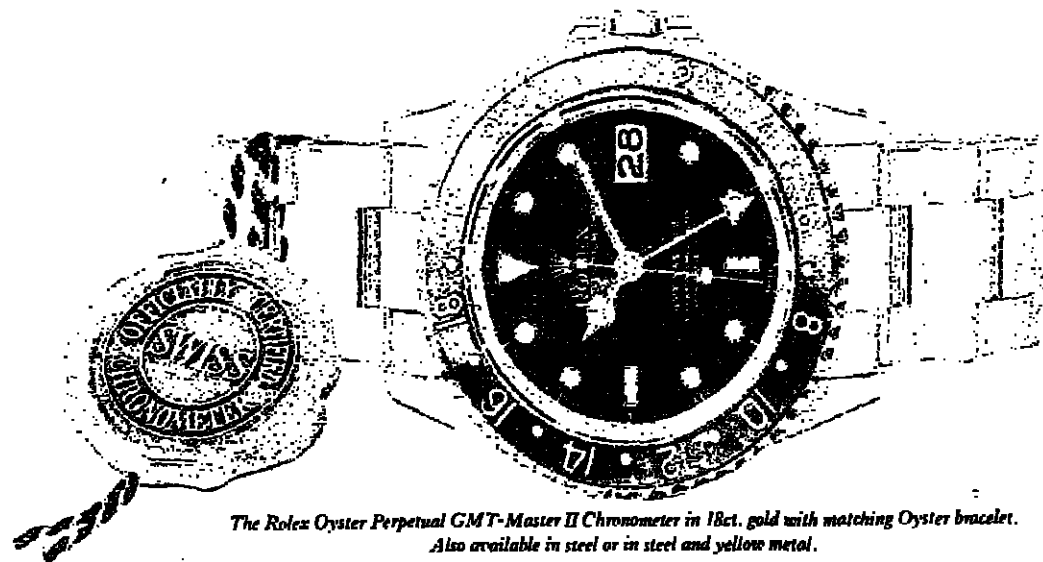
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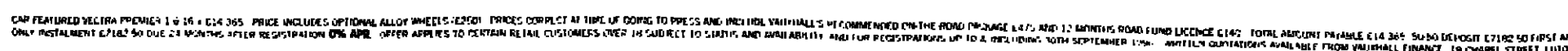
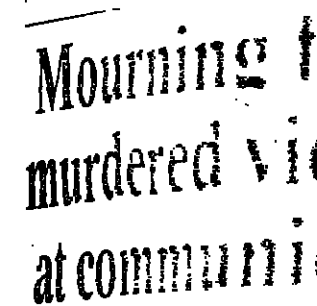
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مکتبہ اسلامیہ

'Public access pathways are being used so that photographers can virtually spy on the Royal Family'

Freelance plans to ignore Queen's plea for privacy

By EMMA WILKINS

BUCKINGHAM Palace officials will discuss today whether to begin legal action against a group of freelance photographers who have been told to stay away from the Balmoral estate.

Jim Bennett, 49, one of the four paparazzi to have received letters from lawyers acting for the Queen, said yesterday that he had no intention of agreeing to the request. Mr Bennett's decision came as it emerged that the Queen requested the move to secure some privacy for her grandchildren.

Senior members of the Royal Family are becoming increasingly concerned at the effects of media intrusion on the younger royals, especially Prince William. The 14-year-old Prince, who has become a prime target for the long lenses of the paparazzi, has told the Prince of Wales of his worries about being photographed during the summer holidays.

Prince William arrives at Balmoral later this week with Prince Harry and the Prince of Wales. They join the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Princess Royal and Prince Andrew with Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie.

"The legal action is designed to give the younger members of the Royal Family a bit of privacy," a Buckingham Pal-



A Special Branch officer advising photographers outside the church attended by the Queen yesterday

ace spokeswoman said. "The Queen wants younger members of the family to enjoy the estate as much as she does herself."

"It's very difficult for them to enjoy their holidays when people are peering at them through long lenses — even it is from a public footpath. These public-access pathways are being used so that photographers can virtually spy on members of the Royal Family who are just trying to spend a few moments alone with the young ones," she said.

Royal aides have been discussing for months the poten-

tial problems if young Royals become resentful of the media. In due course, Prince William will take up public duties which involve cooperation with the press and television. An amicable relationship is unlikely if the young prince is alienated by the media at an early age.

The Queen asked the trustees of Balmoral Estate to write to the photographers 2½ weeks ago, requiring them not to enter the estate again without permission. They were given until last Friday to sign an undertaking agreeing to the ban. If the Queen's request

is ignored, an injunction will be sought to keep them outside an "exclusion zone" around the estate.

Mr Bennett, who is the only one to have responded, said that he had written to his lawyers defending his actions and contesting the grounds for a ban. "In my opinion, they [the trustees] are not yet in a position to stop people from doing public walks. Every map of the area shows it is a public walkway on which people are encouraged to walk."

"It is not my fault that, out of 50,000 acres, Prince Charles and his two sons decided to have a meal at a spot where the public can go."

He was referring to a confrontation on April 13 when Mr Bennett and four other freelancers noticed the Prince of Wales with his sons heading for the Glas-Ait-Shiel lodge house on the shores of Loch Muick. Mr Bennett said that he and his colleagues were stopped by two Special Branch officers shortly after they had left the public car park.

He claimed that the officers had said photographers could not go up there with their cameras as it was private land. Mr Bennett and his colleagues disputed this. Four photographers, including Mr Bennett, carried on and one turned back.

Mr Bennett, who said he



Photographers in waiting yesterday as members of the Royal Family arrive at Crathie Church on the Balmoral estate

had been shocked to receive the letter from the Queen's lawyers, was anxious to distance himself from Martin Stenning, the former dispatch rider who is the subject of a separate injunction by the Princess of Wales.

"I am a professional and the reason I am speaking out is that I do not want to be tarred with the same brush as that photographer in London," he said. "I have been covering the Royal Family for 15 years and I have never had any major problem."

Princess Royal and Commander Tim Laurence, who were married at the church, were also present.

It was the first church service during the Royal Family's annual two-month holiday in the Highlands. About 400 well-wishers — the largest number for several years — gathered outside the church to catch a glimpse of the Royal party.

Mourning for murdered vicar at communion

By PAUL WILKINSON

PARISHIONERS of the Rev Christopher Gray, the clergyman killed outside his own church last week, gathered there yesterday in sombre mood for the first Sunday communion since his death. Some wore black and others wept as they arrived at the modern brick and glass building in the heart of a run-down inner city area less than a mile from the Anfield home of Liverpool Football Club.

At the church entrance were two tables covered with letters and cards carrying condolences from churches of all faiths all over the country. Most offered sympathy and support but one card, from a bouquet left by a wry Scouse wag, summed up the clergyman who achieved an Oxford double first but elected to serve the people of a decaying urban parish: "Brilliant, but rubbish at pub quizzes."

Many of the parishioners had walked past the spot on the street only yards from the entrance to St Margaret's Church where Mr Gray, 32, had been fatally wounded early last Tuesday morning, apparently as he counselled a distressed man.

Yesterday's service was conducted by the Archdeacon of Liverpool, the Ven Robert Metcalf. Before the service he said: "This is a bereaved community, a bereaved family, and it is my pastoral duty as a priest to be here with them today to lend my support. This is the normal Sunday Eucharist which Christopher would usually have conducted himself." Al-

most 150 members of the parish joined him in singing hymns selected specially for the occasion. They included "Oh Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end", and the readings included the celebrated Old Testament passage from Micah looking forward to the day when swords would be turned into plough shares.

In his address the Archdeacon said he had first met Mr Gray when he wanted to become a curate in Liverpool. "I recognised a brilliant young man who had so much to offer. He said he wanted to serve in urban Liverpool... he was saying clearly that he believed God had called him to be a priest and that he was responding to that call, a sacrifice of other possible careers and ultimately a sacrifice of his life when fulfilling that calling. I had met a man of deep faith, one which he sought to share with others."

"Christopher followed in his Master's footsteps, he did not seek gain for himself, he cared humbly for the people who needed to know God's love. The finest tribute to his Christian ministry is to continue it."

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev David Sheppard, during his sermon in the Anglican cathedral in Liverpool, also referred to the death of Mr Gray. He asked his congregation to believe that "at the end of a dark week", there was still hope that young men and women like Mr Gray would respond to God's calling and turn away from financially profitable jobs to serve people in other ways.

Police link attacks to Caroline's murderer

By JOANNA BALE

FRENCH police believe that the man who raped and murdered the British schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson could be responsible for three similar incidents at youth hostels in Brittany.

On July 18, a man tried to suffocate a British schoolgirl in the resort of St Lunaire, three hours before Caroline, 13, from Launceston, Cornwall, was murdered at another hostel 25 miles away in Pleine Fougères, it was reported yesterday.

The 14-year-old victim from Salford, Greater Manchester, was saved when one of the girls sharing a room with her was woken by her choking and shouted at the attacker. The man ran off, but a teacher allegedly did not believe the story and the matter was not reported until the party returned to England and heard about Caroline's death.

Asked why French police had not immediately been informed, the headmaster of Hope High School, Alan Hewitt, said yesterday that the incident had happened the night before they were to return home. "It was reported to the British police when we heard that Caroline Dickinson had been murdered. Naturally, everyone feels very uneasy that the two may be linked."

The French detectives in Launceston have details of two other incidents in hostels in the St Malo area. On July 15, a Dutch student awoke to find a man leaning over her bed. She screamed and he fled. On August 10 a man entered several rooms in another hostel.

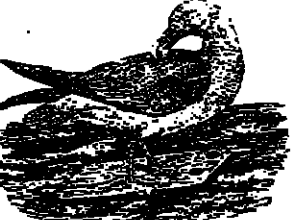
Wily old seabird outlives albatross to take record

A SEABIRD which nests every year on an uninhabited Orkney island has gone into the record book as the oldest known wild bird in the world. The female fulmar is aged more than 50.

Scientists have been monitoring the bird on Eynhallow since the early 1950s and are astonished at how long it has lasted.

Peter Cosgrove of Aberdeen University said: "It still has beautiful white feathers, not like an old bird at all." He said the fulmar had officially become the world's oldest bird after a black-browed albatross ringed at the same time failed to return to its nesting site in New Zealand this year. The fulmar, known to scientists as number 57, was one of the first birds to be ringed when a research project, headed by the late George Dunnet, started in 1951.

Dr Cosgrove, who took over



The fulmar: no predators

the project last year, said: "This is the longest-running bird study in the world. When we heard the New Zealand albatross had not returned, we knew our bird was the oldest. Fulmars have no natural predators and they just seem to go on and on. Most reach about 20 or 30 years old. Number 57 still returns to Orkney to breed most years. She is quite exceptional."

Fulmars (*Fulmarus glacialis*) are members of the petrel family. Dr Cosgrove described them as Britain's version of the albatross. At the

end of the 19th century the only breeding colony in Britain was on St Kilda, where the islanders caught them for food and fuel.

With the advent of industrial fishing, the fulmar spread through the country and there is now a population on virtually every sea cliff. The birds defend themselves by spitting out a vile, oily liquid, the smell of which can persist on a victim for more than a week.

Dr Cosgrove said: "Fulmars have proved a great success story since the turn of the century. One thing we do not yet know is whether the birds go through a menopause."

He did not doubt that there were wild parrots in South American jungles older than the Orkney fulmar, but none had been ringed or recorded. Eynhallow, the site of a 14th-century monastery, lost its human population to smallpox in the 19th century.

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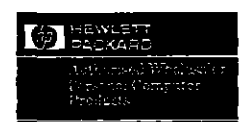
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Action to tackle inner-city vehicle pollution 'getting nowhere'

By PETER FOSTER

PLANS to set up "pollution police" to clamp down on drivers of vehicles with illegal exhaust emissions are floundering because of bureaucratic delays and lack of funding, according to motoring groups and local authorities.

Six months after ministers announced an initiative to improve the air quality in inner cities and more than a year after the move was first proposed, the RAC, opposition MPs and town halls have called the scheme a sham. Powers granted to local authorities under the 1995 Environment Act have "dis-

appeared into a bureaucratic black hole", they claim.

Chris Cawley, assistant director for pollution at Westminster City Council, said: "We were told by ministers in February we would have lasting powers and that they wanted to get on with it. Six months later we haven't even seen draft regulations."

Although the Environment Act gave local authorities powers to check vehicle emissions at the roadside, no extra money was provided to carry out the tests. A working group which included police, local authorities, motoring organisations and the Departments of Transport and the Environ-

ment was set up to assess whether a self-financing scheme was viable and how it should operate.

The Department of Transport said yesterday that lawyers were drafting regulations for a pilot scheme to begin in five local-authority areas at the end of this year. If the trials were successful a national scheme could be in place by 1998.

Dr Jeremy Vanke, head of public policy at the RAC, said the Government's policy on vehicle emission standards amounted to little more than publicity stunts with no genuine commitment to improving the environment. He said:

POLLUTION HOTLINES

Smoky vehicles can be reported to the Vehicles Inspectorate on regional hotlines. Callers must give their name and address, the registration number of the vehicle and the time, place and date of sighting. If your vehicle is reported you will be given ten days to obtain a clean emissions certificate from your local test centre. Regional hotline numbers: South East 0181 665 0885; Western 0117 953 1924; South Wales 01443 224771; Eastern 0116 276 2411; West Midlands 0121 789 7999; North West 0161 494 9085; North East 0113 258 7818; Scotland 0131 244 6521.

"Many legal and administrative questions remain unanswered and there is no sign of those problems being resolved."

Michael Meacher, Labour

spokesman for environmental protection, said that he would be writing to Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary. He said: "No resources have been provided and the

Whitehall bureaucracy is sitting on its hands."

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) said yesterday that it would not commit itself to emissions testing until it was certain that councils would pay for police time.

Bristol and Canterbury City Councils, who have lobbied hard to be part of the trials, both called for government money to back the project. Andrew Roberts, director of architecture and engineering at Canterbury, said: "We are very aware of the impact of the motor vehicle on our day-to-day lives but would need government assistance to get

the scheme off the ground." Research published by the AA shows that about 50 per cent of traffic pollution is caused by just 10 per cent of vehicles.

The Vehicle Inspectorate, which is an agency of the Transport Department, currently carries out roadside testing but has only limited resources. The inspectorate's Smoky Vehicles hotlines received 16,304 calls in 1995-96 with action taken in more than half the reported cases.

Martin Maeso, assistant leader of research and environmental policy for the AA, said that increasing funds to the Vehicle Inspectorate would be a more cost-effective way of

dealing with pollution. He said: "The self-financing scheme is fraught with problems. The Home Office has said the on-the-spot fines shouldn't be much more than £40, which makes the financial viability of the scheme extremely questionable." □ Air quality is plunging in the current hot spell. The London Weather Centre has forecast poor air quality in the capital today because of high levels of nitrogen gases, linked with car emissions, and ozone, caused by the effect of strong sunlight on exhaust fumes.

Leading article, page 19

Poor diet, unhealthy habits and lack of fitness are crippling Britain's dancers, report says

Dancing on air, gasping for a beer and a smoke

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE dying swan in *Swan Lake* may really be dying for a cigarette, a bar of chocolate and glass of beer, according to a health survey of Britain's dancers. The apparent visions of athletic grace gliding about the stage frequently suffer serious consequences from un-

healthy lifestyles and poor fitness training.

More than eight out of ten professional dancers are injured each year because their bodies are left vulnerable by poor diet, long hours and draughty rehearsal rooms. They are also more prone to colds and flu. Some are said to be only marginally fitter than the average person.

Dance tutors are now being encouraged to break the bad habits, pursued since the early days of ballet in the court of Louis XIV, and adopt the lessons of British Olympic sport science, including the study of anatomy and warm-up techniques.

The study *Fit to Dance?* was supported by Dance UK, the national organisation for Britain's 25,000 professional dancers. It surveyed 658 ballet, contemporary, jazz and tap dancers and dance students, watched 250 performances and conducted fitness and



Grace under pressure: amateur dancers taking a break during rehearsals. Professionals are not much fitter than even the average Briton

nutrition tests. The researchers concluded that dancers in Britain were less aerobically fit than counterparts in the United States and Russia. The dancers' own definition of fitness tends to mean flexibility rather than stamina and endurance.

Diet was found to be notoriously unhealthy, with too many still believing the myth that "food is the enemy". One dancer told researchers: "It's chocolate, cigarettes, Kit-

Kats and Coke". They eat more fatty foods than other sportspeople and fewer fruit and vegetables. To replace fluid, they mistakenly drink strong tea, coffee, beer, lager and wine.

Forty per cent of the men and 36 per cent of the women admit to smoking. The report says: "Some begin smoking only upon arriving at school, partly to cope with the unfamiliarity and pressure, partly because it is socially accept-

able and partly to suppress appetite."

Professor Christopher Bannerman, one of the report's editorial team, remembers how he was left incapable of tying his shoe-laces for three months because of a back injury with London Contemporary Dance Theatre. He trained with weights in a gym and, when he returned to work, found he had become much fitter: "I leaped into the air and wondered why every-

one else was going down to the ground so soon. I was fit for the first time."

Professor Bannerman, now head of dance at Middlesex University, said: "Some dancers are marginally more fit than the average person in the street in terms of aerobic fitness. They say: 'I want to express myself and look beautiful - I don't want to jog.'"

Half of the dancers surveyed had chronic injuries from early in their careers.

The cost can be high. One commercial management spent £38,000 on understudies and extra rehearsals to replace injured dancers.

However, Shirley English, physiotherapist to the English National Ballet, said a new reluctance to teach full plies in classes could put dancers in danger when they faced a demanding sequence: "If you don't put them through that movement, they will have their kneecap pulled off."

Clergyman cost Church £50,000

The Church of England has spent £50,000 helping those abused by Chris Brain, the disgraced clergyman who ran Sheffield's Nine O'Clock Service. A year since the scandal broke, ten women are still being counselled.

Priest attacked

A Roman Catholic priest was attacked by a patient during a service at Broadmoor Hospital. Father Martin Laker needed stitches to a head wound after being assaulted at the top-security hospital in Crowthorne, Berkshire.

Holiday death

A Briton has died in a water bike accident while on holiday in Florida. William Alexander, 26, a soldier stationed at Catterick, North Yorkshire, hit his head while trying to jump the wake of a passing boat.

Police raid party

An illegal drinking den at a disused country house in Buckinghamshire was raided by police early yesterday. There were 11 arrests for drugs offences when more than 50 officers arrived as 500 people held a party.

Crushed boy dies

A boy aged 8 was crushed to death when an army lorry slipped down a bank at a balloon festival in Northampton. The driver lost control as he was leaving a Territorial Army display. Six other people were injured.

Brahms and Liszt

A pub which promises to ban music and pop music has opened in Clifton, Bristol. The Composers' Bar holds weekly concerts of classical music, provides it on tape at other times and is decorated with the busts of composers.

Letters, page 19

Specialist halts octuplets treatment after authority refuses to pay

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A SPECIALIST in multiple births has stopped treating Mandy Allwood, the mother expecting octuplets, because a health authority has refused to pay for his services.

Kypros Nicolaides of King's College Hospital, London, has bowed to Solihull Health Authority's decision that she could be treated equally

well close to her home in the Midlands. A spokeswoman for King's said yesterday: "Without that referral, she is not Kypros' patient." He had declined to treat her without charge as that would set a precedent. "Solihull told us that they would reconsider the case at a later stage," said the spokeswoman.

Miss Allwood was reported yesterday to be determined to continue being treated by Professor

Nicolaides, but the cost has been estimated at £500,000 if all the babies are born alive. She could try to continue treatment with him by appealing to medical charities or by changing GP.

Alternatively, she could try to pay for her care privately through the £1 million sponsorship deals she hopes to arrange through Max Clifford, her publicist. She has been offered a six-figure sum for her story by the

News of the World. Solihull wants her to discuss her maternity care and does not rule out a later referral to the specialist hospital.

Professor Nicolaides saw Miss Allwood for three hours on Saturday, keeping an appointment he made before Solihull's decision. A leading expert in ultrasound, he gave her pictures of scans of her foetuses, showing that they all looked healthy and that two were

identical twins. She first felt them kicking last Thursday. Professor Nicolaides has recommended that Miss Allwood terminates some of the babies to give the others more chance but she has decided to try to keep all eight.

Miss Allwood was referred to him by her consultant at Birmingham, Dr Manjit O'Brien. Solihull declined to approve the referral because it has contracts with hospi-

tals in the Midlands to provide maternity care and believes Miss Allwood would be better treated in the area.

Miss Allwood has been hiding from the media with her boyfriend, Paul Hudson, in Wandsworth, southwest London, and could look for a family doctor in that area prepared to accept her as a patient.

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Chefs feel heat of latest research on beefburgers

The recent warm weather has brought back smiles to the faces of farmers who are completing their harvests. Too busy to read the papers, many may well have missed an item which in pre-BSE days would have caused concern.

Now that farmers have been hardened by years of adverse publicity, the latest research from America into beefburgers barely warrants a mention in the bar of their local. Doctors from the Ohio College of Medicine report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that they have uncovered a tenuous link between eating beefburgers and developing non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The journal is a well-regarded American publication and research published in it is taken seriously by doctors throughout the world.

Although there is an epidemic of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in the western world, a cause has not been found and about 4,000 cases are diagnosed annually in the United Kingdom. Some of the cases, being treated are known to follow damage to the immune system, whether as a result of disease, as occurs in those infected with HIV, or following essential treatment for other conditions; for example, when immune-suppressant drugs are given for the treatment of other malignant disease, after transplant surgery or in some types of connective tissue disease, such as SLE (systemic lupus erythematosus).

An association has also been noticed between non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and melanoma, the malignant moles which sometime arise



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

as a result of excessive exposure to sun. It is possible that the increase in numbers of both of these separate malignancies is a sequel to the sun-worshipping that became firmly established when foreign travel became easier after the Second World War. A few cases of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma are known to be a late result of infection with a virus.

The good news for farmers is that in the Ohio research, based on 34,000 local women who had their diet analysed and compared with the incidence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, the connection with beefburgers seemed to be entirely with the method of cooking and not with the nature of the meat.

The good news for farmers is that in the Ohio research, based on 34,000 local women who had their diet analysed and compared with the incidence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, the connection with beefburgers seemed to be entirely with the method of cooking and not with the nature of the meat.

The diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is usually made when the patient discovers a painless, enlarged rubbery lymph gland. In many cases the gland is first found in the neck or groin. About a third of the patients are anaemic, which worsens later as the malignant tissue spreads, often to the stomach and intestines.

As a terminal event, many people with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma develop a leukaemic-type blood picture. Whereas often the disease initially develops slowly and no treatment is required in the early stages, later on radiotherapy and chemotherapy are used. Although this does not effect a cure, life is often prolonged for many years.

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Rare Renaissance bronzes may be diverted from Fitzwilliam Museum to Swiss taxman

Family challenges art bequest to Cambridge

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge faces legal action over a multimillion-pound bequest of Renaissance bronzes whose ownership is being contested.

The family of the late Kathleen Sherek, who lived in Geneva and who was left the collection by her brother, disputes whether she promised it to Cambridge long before her death. The Swiss are also considering whether the collection might need to be passed to Geneva in lieu of inheritance tax.

Scholars describe it as one of the world's outstanding private collections of Renaissance bronzes. It was long assumed that the bequest was going to Cambridge.

A statuette by Antico (circa 1460-1528), court sculptor to the Gonzagas in Mantua, is among the most prized works in the two dozen bronzes. Antico, who was born Pier Jacopo Alari Bonacolsi, and



Kathleen Sherek

who was influenced by Mantegna and Donatello, derived his nickname from restoring antique marbles, though he also created bronze statues in an antique style. Such is the rarity of this master on the open market that Bonhams sold Antico's *Hercules* for a record £3.08 million last May. The collection, known as the Sherek Bequest, was put to-

gether in the 1930s by Colonel Thomas Boscawen, a younger son of the seventh Viscount Falmouth. Unable to afford to live in England, he worked as a farmer in Africa, owning extensive plantations.

One source said: "The collection didn't cost a fortune. The market was so low then that anyone clever with only a little bit of money could do wonderful things. In the 1930s, museums were desperately poor and the financial crises worse than now." The colonel is remembered as "very cultivated and very retiring, a product of another age."

He collected bronzes because they were among the few hardy works of art that could withstand the African weather. At Boscawen's death in 1958, the collection was left to his sister, the wife of Henry Sherek, a theatre producer and impresario. When he died in 1967, Kathleen Sherek left London to live in Switzerland.

She freely let scholars see the collection and lent items to

exhibitions. It is unclear whether the bequest was mentioned in her will.

"It was always understood that the collection was destined for the Fitzwilliam," said one observer. It is believed that Mrs Sherek felt that her brother would have wanted the collection to go to Cambridge, where he had been a student.

At the end of last year, Geneva introduced an "acceptance in lieu" system, partly modelled on the British version, in which inheritance tax can be paid with works of art. A lawyer said: "This is a major change in Geneva, affecting its role as a haven for collectors."

It appears that the family is contesting the bequest because of the need to pay taxes. Asked if the works were likely to be subject to inheritance tax, Pietro Sansonetti, director of tax affairs at the Geneva tax authority, said: "The question is still open. It is an issue that is still pending."

The Fitzwilliam was unable to comment.



Works by Antico are among the most highly coveted by collectors of bronzes

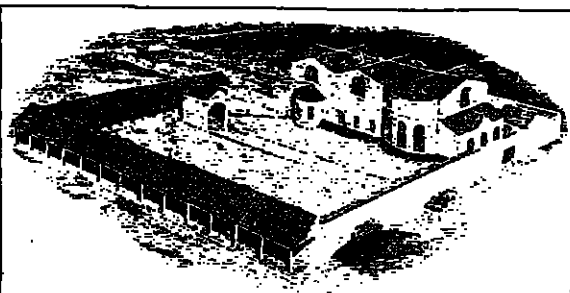
Scotland to London rail fare cut to £19

A RAIL company is cutting the fare from Scotland to London to just £19 to challenge cheap air tickets. The single fare is available on all East Coast services from Glasgow Central, Motherwell and Edinburgh to King's Cross as long as tickets are booked at least seven days before travelling.

The price cut is a bid by Sea Containers, which was awarded the East Coast franchise four months ago, to undercut discounted air fares as well as bus services. It comes days after Ryanair UK reduced its return Glasgow to London fare to £49 and rival airline EasyJet said it would double its flights to the capital.

Christopher Garnett, chief executive of East Coast, said he was confident of winning a large share of the airline market. "The £19 fare is part of a £5 million marketing campaign designed to promote the advantages of taking the train into the heart of London."

East Coast runs 20 trains a day from Scotland. The fastest journey from Edinburgh to London takes 4 hours and 10 minutes.



Artist's impression of Caerleon bath house

Welsh fortress where troops faced tribes

In the last of our series on Roman Britain, John Young explores the fringes of the empire, where an invader's fort faced a native capital



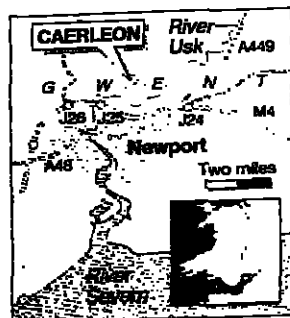
ated with popular legends of King Arthur and the Round Table.

Near by is the Legionary Museum, founded in 1880 by industrialists who formed the Caerleon Antiquarian Association. The present building was completed in 1986 and incorporates its predecessor's colonnade. It attracts 50,000 visitors a year, about half of them school groups.

It houses an outstanding collection of sculpture, pottery, tombstones and burial urns, the inscriptions enhanced with a red dye which, though it appears curious at first, greatly increases their legibility. There are also tiles, domestic utensils, craftsmen's implements, coins and — most fascinating of all — a collection of 88 exquisitely engraved gemstones found in the baths in 1979.

Caerleon is a must for anyone seriously interested in Roman Britain. For good measure, about ten miles up the road to the east lies Caerwent, formerly Venta Silurum, the capital of the Silures tribe. It is now a small, peaceful village, happily bypassed by the main road.

The most outstanding remains are those of the great defensive walls, which form a rectangle of just over a mile in perimeter and provide a pleasant



walk along the top. Not far away is a small excavated section of the great forum-basilica and the Romano-Celtic temple; the latter was not built until 330 AD, which suggests that it could have been an early centre of Christian worship. In the porch of the Church of St Stephen and St Tathan is a stone with an inscription dedicated to Tiberius Claudius Paulinus, commander of the Second Augustan Legion and later Governor of Britannia Inferior.

THE Roman fortress of Isca was established at what is now Caerleon, on the banks of the River Usk in Gwent, between 74 and 78 AD. Along with Chester and York, it was one of the three great legionary strongholds in Britain, built like Chester, to withstand attacks from the insubordinate Welsh.

For centuries after the Romans left, Caerleon thrived as the principal port of the region, being overtaken by Newport, at the mouth of the river, only during the industrial revolution. Although now virtually a suburb of the new port, it is close to lovely countryside extending up the valley, with many public footpaths and picnic sites, and deserves more visitors than it gets.

The most striking survival is the great bath house which was not rediscovered until 1877 when a small section of mosaic pavement was unearthed during road works. It was not fully excavated until between 1964 and 1981.

The baths are now splendidly displayed within an attractive modern building, a 20th-century substitute for a huge vaulted basilica, 216ft long and 70ft high. The extensive remains on view include the floors and walls of the changing rooms and bath house and the large outdoor pool.

Caerleon also boasts the only visible remains of a fully fledged Roman barracks in Britain, which occupy part of a small, pleasant park next to the rugby and cricket pitches. Excavated between 1927 and 1929, they are thought to be part of a complex of 60 similar blocks which for three centuries provided a permanent home for the Second Augustan Legion.

On the other side of a quiet side road is the amphitheatre, excavated at about the same time as the barracks. It is the only one of its kind in Britain to have been fully exposed and long before that was associ-

Who'd have thought it? 'Pride and Prejudice', Jane Austen's classic tale of romance and English manners, being eagerly watched in the home of popcorn and pretzels.

Over eleven million Americans followed the six part adaptation. Add that to the audiences of seventeen other countries around the world and it's easy to see why it has become one of the BBC's great success stories of 1996.

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make television and radio programmes of such high quality. Which is why, every year, the BBC produces an Annual Report where its spending and achievements for that year can be seen by everyone. In this year's report, for example, you can read how it is now re-investing the money made from exporting programmes like 'Pride and Prejudice', making sure you get the most for your money.

If you'd like a copy, it can be found in most good book shops and libraries. But probably not in Inglewood, California.



INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA.

Just one of the places you can discover 19th century England.

Investors shaken by South African murder

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN CAPE TOWN

AMID increasing concern about South Africa's crime problems, fuelled by the recent upsurge of vigilante violence, the murder of a German executive has shaken the country's nervous foreign business community and injected a sense of urgency into the Government's anti-crime strategies.

Erich Ellmer, 48, financial manager of the South African branch of AEG, was shot dead outside his home in Johannesburg in a botched hijacking by gunmen who fled empty-handed. The murder dominated news at the weekend, drawing condemnation from politicians, concern from business leaders and anger from the public.

"The bastards shot him in the back," said his wife Jutta, an employee of ARD TV, the German television network, who planned to leave the country with her two young children after 12 years. Frau Ellmer, who had previously considered leaving South Africa because of the crime, said: "There is so much crime and violence and no law in this

country. The police just cannot handle it."

The words might have come from one of countless South Africans who daily telephone local radio shows across the country to voice their anger over crime. For whites in particular Herr Ellmer's murder was spine-chilling. Like many other Johannesburg residents, the family lived in a

town Against Gangsterism and Drugs in Cape Town has struck a chord with crime-weary South Africans. Every day brings news of new vigilante action. Faced with well armed and well drilled vigilantes, the gangs are marching in protest, troops and extra police have been sent to the Cape Flats and the issue tops the political agenda.

activists, gangsters and police officers in the Cape Flats.

The Government complains that the international media is obsessed with violence and says it is getting on top of the problem. But the news that Dullah Omar, the Justice Minister, has moved out of his home in the Cape Flats amid concerns for his safety, is hardly a vote of confidence.

Nearly two million crimes were reported last year, with only half solved, including 36,588 rapes, 18,983 murders and 66,838 armed robberies.

Herr Ellmer's murder has prompted BMW to reconsider its new billion-rand investment announced earlier this year. Last week the tourism board said that the number of visitors rose by 0.2 per cent in the first five months of this year, compared with a 30 per cent for the same period last year.

□ **Durban:** Gunmen shot and burnt to death five people, including two children, aged three and seven, in KwaZulu-Natal province at the weekend, the police said. (Reuters)

There is so much crime and violence and no law in this country. The police just cannot handle it

house protected by high walls, razor wire, dogs, alarms and security doors.

For increasing numbers of South Africans the answer appears to lie in vigilantism. Community anger has led residents of white suburbs to form armed patrol groups and the mushrooming of township vigilantes.

The emergence of a Muslim vigilante group, People's Ac-

At the weekend a South African newspaper reported that neo-Nazis from the Afrikaaner Resistance Movement had been hired by Cape Town gangsters as protection from anti-drug militants.

White men with blacked-out faces were seen last week directing a gang cavalcade as it drove towards a police station shortly before a shootout between anti-gang



South Korean students demanding unification with the North defy police from behind barricades at Seoul's Yonsei University last night. About 1,000 were trapped inside a police cordon after five days of violence (Nick Long writes). Most of the demonstrators were in the science block, threatening to set off explosive chemicals if

Korean students at bay

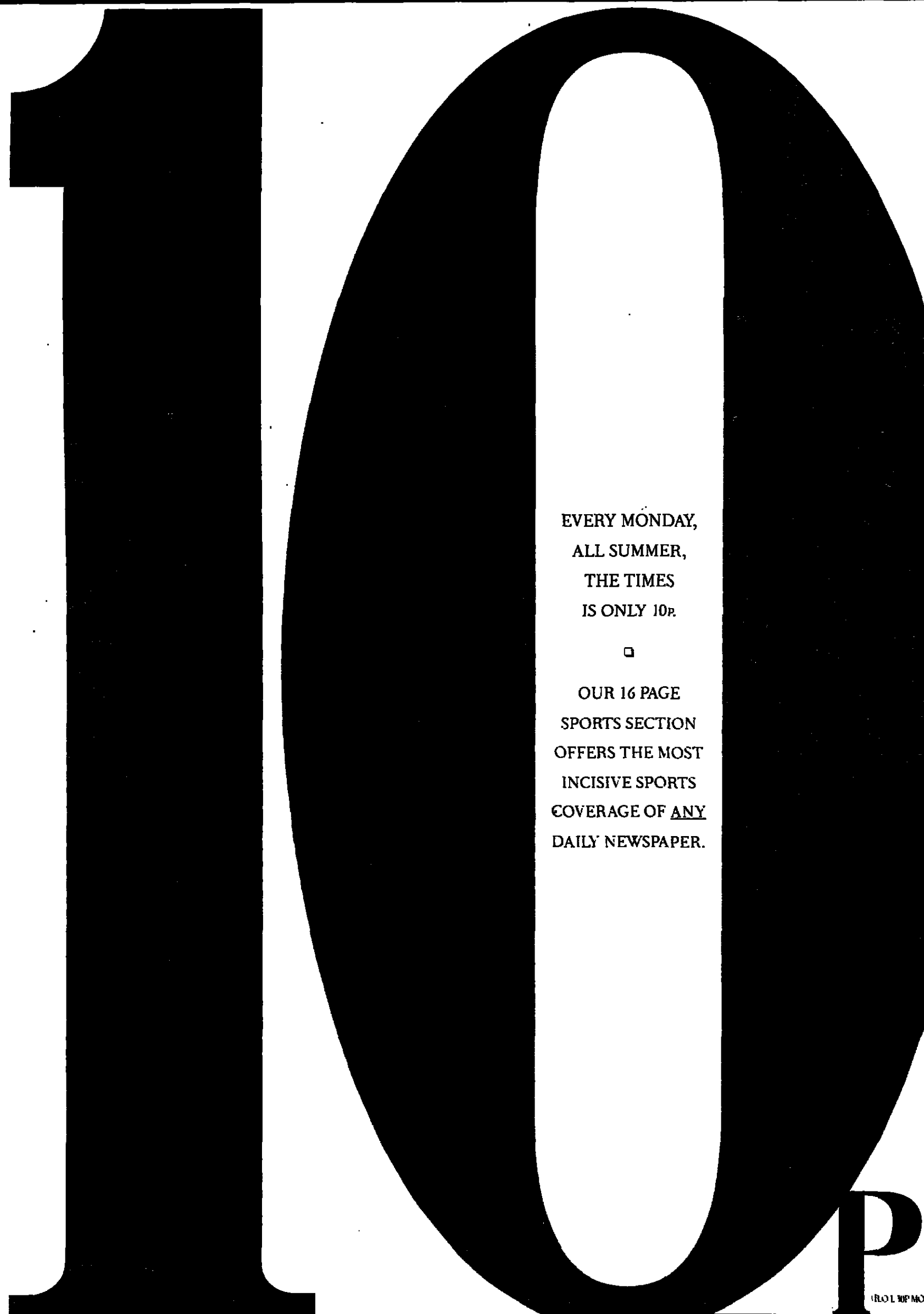
the building was stormed. A sign hanging from the roof read: "We want to go home". But the students refused to surrender without a guarantee of immunity. The Government has promised to punish the group and to root out Hanseongryon, the

Federation of Student Councils, which sponsored the demonstration.

Up to 12,000 police have been deployed in and around the university. Police who tried to break through the barricades outside the building yesterday

were beaten back by several hundred students hurling rocks and wielding metal pipes. During the past week, more than 1,000 students and police were reported injured and about 1,700 students were detained. Most were released. The students are also demanding the withdrawal of about 37,000 US troops from Korea.

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Colony in despair at 'Chinese takeaway'

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN HONG KONG

IN THE window of a souvenir shop at the terminal of Star Ferry, linking Hong Kong island with Kowloon, a T-shirt for sale depicts China grasping Hong Kong between chopsticks, and the words read: "30 June, 1997 - the Greatest Chinese Take-Away".

The caricature seems to sum up the mood of resignation among Hong Kong Chinese in this city state, population 6.3 million, with less than 11 months to go before China takes over sovereignty of the colony. "There's not much anyone can do about it," says one Hong Kong businessman. "A lot of people feel now they would just as soon get it over with."

Visitors returning to Hong Kong after an absence of a year or two will find new physical evidence, big and small, of its irreversible fate. There are the Bank of China banknotes featuring the bauhinia flower, an orchid adopted as the symbol of the future Special Administrative Region (SAR). On a bigger scale, there is the Chinese Foreign Ministry building going up at the corner of MacDonnell Road and Kennedy Road on Hong Kong. It is being paid for by Li Ka-shing, the pro-Peking tycoon who is one of the world's richest men.

The building is likely to be the nerve centre of China's authority, replacing the Xinhua news agency that has represented Peking's interests until now. The agency's offices have often been the focal point of pro-democracy protests.

Just a few hundred yards away, across the lush Hong Kong park, an imposing eight-storey building to house the future British Consulate-General is nearing completion.

Yet, the British are annoyed — with themselves. Due to an astonishing lack of foresight, the authorities failed to build a taller structure to allow several floors to be used as residential flats for future consulate staff. "Now they will be thrown on the market like everyone else and forced to pay astronomical prices," said a British lawyer here.

"It's a fine building but the feng shui may not be propitious," said an engineer on the project, pointing at the Bank of China, a sharp side of which leans like a knife over the future consulate. Feng shui (wind and water) is an important oriental art applied to enhancing and harmonising surroundings of homes, buildings, and even rooms.

10,000 see Mugabe wed

BY JAN RAATH

THE controversial ten-year love affair between President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, 72, and his former secretary, Grace Marufu, 31, became respectable on Saturday when the two were married in a lavish ceremony at Kutama Mission, about 50 miles west of Harare.

The Pope wished the couple "an abundance of divine grace and joy" in a message read out to the 10,000 guests crowded in and around St Xavier's church. "The Holy

WORLD SUMMARY

Women of India fight back

Delhi: A housewives' Bill has been introduced in the Indian parliament, calling for paid housework and a legally enforceable day off for women in the home. Women would be able to choose which day they want off and if the family demurs, the housewife could summon the police (Christopher Thomas writes).

The Housewives (Compulsory Weekly Holiday From Domestic Chores) Bill says that it shall be the duty of family members to establish which day of the week the housewife wants free. The Bill may not have a hope of becoming law, but its message is clear: Indian wives are fighting back.

Lebanon voting marred by death

Beirut: One man was killed after a brawl at a polling station and rival candidates swapped charges of bribery, gangsterism and intimidation as Lebanon's parliamentary elections started in Mount Lebanon, the Christian heartland, yesterday. Police and independent observers reported fist fighting or gunfire as the region voted in the first of five rounds of polling to be held in different parts of the country on consecutive Sundays. (Reuters)

'Last chance' for peace in Liberia

Abuja: A new peace plan to end the Liberian civil war has been agreed by West African leaders with the country's warlords. The Nigerian Government said: "This is indeed the last chance for peace for Liberians." Under a timetable, elections will be held next May. Ruth Perry, a former Liberian senator, will now take over from Dr. Wilton Sankawulo as new chairman of the council of state. (Reuters)

Tajikistan truce in jeopardy

Tajikistan's Islamic opposition leaders, speaking from Tehran, claimed their forces had taken control of the strategic Tajik town of Tavildara in fierce fighting. The Tajik Defence Ministry said in a statement that fighting was continuing, apparently leaving last month's United Nations-sponsored ceasefire in tatters. (Reuters)

THE TIMES
Invigorated

Dole close
Clinton
wins no

Nine
House

Russian
escape

JP 1/10/96

Invigorated Republican campaign warms up early for presidential race

BY TIM HANES

COMMENTARY

AN EFFECTIVE performance by Bob Dole concluded a convention that has surpassed the expectations of Republican managers.

Two weeks ago his campaign looked dead. It now has a message, money and considerable momentum. The Dole camp has received a surge in opinion polls as a consequence. How stable this will be cannot properly be judged until after the Democrats meet in Chicago. There is a considerable chance that their convention will be something of a non-event, with too little

of interest to hold the attention of television viewers.

Mr Dole can also exploit his freedom from office to campaign full time as the candidate of change. That is crucial if he is to marginalise any impact Ross Perot and the Reform Party might have on the race. Mr Dole knows he must run flat out rather than wait for the beginning of next month, the traditional curtain-raiser to the election season. His team will operate on a three-point electoral

strategy. The first objective will be to consolidate support as quickly and inexpensively as possible. Assuming he is running a competitive race, Mr Dole's aim will be to win the entire South with the predictable exception of Arkansas. He will be confident of taking the prairie states, including his own, Kansas. He should also aspire to the mountain states, some of which went to Bill Clinton last time, but which have been alienated by the Administration's environmental policies, called "War on the West" by opponents. With the usual Republican stalwarts such as Alus-

ka, Indiana and New England, that would provide 230 to 240 of the 270 electoral college votes needed for victory.

The second strand involves planning for places the candidate expects to lose. The most important requirement is to run hard but relatively cheaply in California, which with its 54 votes is the biggest prize of all. Mr Dole does not need to win the Golden State but he must avoid the mistake made by George Bush in 1992 when he gave up on the state months before polling day.

Republicans need to be competi-

tive enough to force President Clinton to spend time and money working on a state that he should win anyway. In this strategy the presence of Jack Kemp, a California native, will be an asset. Such is his known effectiveness in urban areas, where all other Republicans are weak, Mr Kemp may be sent predominantly to other states, such as New York which he represented in Congress, and Pennsylvania as well as California to inconvenience the Clinton team.

The final focus will be on four key states: Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, and Ohio. Their 76 electoral

votes would decide any tight race between the two parties. Mr Dole hopes that his Midwestern roots and the presence of popular Republican Governors in all states will prove decisive. In any event, he will spend most of his time there campaigning as if he were a local candidate for governor or senator. The two real bellwether states will be Michigan and Ohio. In modern times, no man who has won them both has failed to win the overall election. In all close elections this century, the two have split. State polls here will be the most closely watched of any.

The theory is clear enough. In practice, it is another matter. Given that any movement he gets from the convention is only likely to narrow, and not eliminate, his deficit behind the President, Mr Dole needs one more factor: luck or rather bad luck for the incumbent. Some sign of economic weakness, an unpopular foreign policy adventure, or renewed personal scandal would be manna from heaven for Republicans. At the moment this looks unlikely. But at various times throughout his presidency, Bill Clinton has often proved his own worst enemy.

Dole closes gap on Clinton as Perot wins nomination

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

ROSS PEROT became America's third official presidential candidate yesterday after he brushed aside a challenge from Richard Lamm, the former Colorado Governor, for the nomination of his Reform Party.

The Texas billionaire won 65 per cent of the vote to Mr Lamm's 35 per cent in a ballot in which barely 50,000 — or less than 5 per cent — of his party's alleged 1.3 million members bothered to vote.

Mr Perot's nomination came as a *Newsweek* poll showed Bob Dole, the Republican nominee, closing to within two percentage points of President Clinton. The same pollsters had recorded a 20-point gap before last week's successful convention and Mr Dole's selection of Jack Kemp as his running-mate. Most polls still give Mr Clinton a double-digit lead, however.

Mr Perot won 19 per cent of the vote in 1992, and he helped Mr Clinton to win the White House by splitting the Republican ballot, but nobody can predict with certainty what effect he will have this year.

The *Newsweek* poll recorded his support at 3 per cent. Having secured the nomination, however, Mr Perot, who spent \$60 million (£39 million) in 1992, intends to launch a massive advertising campaign.

He is obsessed with deficit reduction, and if he chooses to attack the huge tax cuts that Mr Dole has made the centrepiece of his campaign, he could greatly damage the Republican ticket. However, he may choose to focus his fire primarily on Mr Clinton.

Mr Dole and Mr Kemp sought to build on their convention momentum by spending the weekend barnstorm-

ing around the battleground states of Colorado, Illinois, New York and Pennsylvania. At every stop the two men trumpeted Mr Dole's Reaganesque promise to foster growth by cutting taxes by \$548 billion over the next six years.

Mr Clinton responded forcefully to this promise. In his weekly radio address, he said Mr Dole's plan would either risk the economic future by swelling the deficit, or mean massive cuts in cherished social programmes if he was serious about simultaneously balancing the budget.

Mr Dole, speaking at the Illinois state fair, accused Mr Clinton of scaremongering. "The only people that are really scared are the Democrats in the White House who are on their way out."

The *Newsweek* poll showed 35 per cent of respondents more likely to vote for Mr Dole because of his tax-cutting promise, and 16 per cent less likely. Other polls have shown most Americans approve of Mr Clinton's economic stewardship and feel better off than they did four years ago.

The Democrats intend to use their own four-day convention, opening in Chicago on Monday, to portray the Dole plan as a reckless gamble by a desperate candidate who was until recently a staunch opponent of "supply-side" Reaganomics.

Mr Clinton will arrive to accept the nomination after a three-day train journey through the heartlands. Organisers said the speakers would include Hillary Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore's wife, Tipper, Christopher Reeve, the *Superman* actor paralysed in a riding accident last year, and Sarah Brady, the gun-control advocate whose husband, James, was White House press secretary until he was wounded in a 1981 assassination attempt against President Reagan.



A female gorilla gently cradles a three-year-old boy who fell into her enclosure at Brookfield Zoo, Chicago. The boy suffered serious head injuries when he plunged 18ft into the compound, which contained seven gorillas, after climbing over a barrier. But Binti Jua, an eight-year-old female who was carrying her 17-month-old infant on her back, picked up the boy and carried him to a door, where paramedics and zookeepers treated him. They sprayed water on the other gorillas to keep them away. Yesterday the boy was in a serious condition in hospital. Binti

Gorilla saves boy in zoo

Jua, whose name is Swahili for "Daughter of Sunshine", is a Western Lowland gorilla. She was brought up in captivity and when she gave birth, was trained with ape-like stuffed animals to sharpen her maternal instincts. (AP)

Nine killed as White House plane crashes

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

A MILITARY transport aircraft that may have been carrying President Clinton's limousine back from his holiday in Wyoming crashed high in the Rocky Mountains late on Saturday night.

A search-and-rescue team set off on horseback into the Bridger-Teton national forest before dawn yesterday, but the eight crew members and one secret service agent known to have been on board the aircraft are all believed to have died. The Secret Service said foul play was not suspected.

The US Air Force C130 took off from Jackson airport about five hours after the Clinton family had left for Washington on Air Force One after a week-long holiday in

the resort of Jackson Hole. The aircraft was heading for New York, where Mr Clinton was last night celebrating his fiftieth birthday, but crashed into Sleeping Indian Mountain at an altitude of about 11,000ft within minutes of leaving the ground.

A Clinton Administration official said the pilot reported mechanical difficulties and had started to return to the airport. The cause of the crash was unknown, he said.

George Stephanopoulos, a senior White House adviser, said Mr Clinton sent condolences to the families of those who died. In April Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary, died with 34 others when his Air Force plane crashed into a mountainside in Croatia during a trade mission.

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Clinton: went whitewater rafting on his holiday

President given \$10m present

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

PRESIDENT Clinton turns 50 today and last night supporters were presenting him with a \$10 million (\$6.5 million) gift at the ultimate birthday party in New York's Radio City Music Hall.

It was a bash that looked set to surpass even President Kennedy's 45th birthday party at Madison Square Garden in 1962 when Marilyn Monroe crooned a memorably sexy *Happy Birthday*.

Hillary Clinton spent months planning it. Jeff Margolis, the producer of Hollywood's annual Oscars ceremony, staged it. Stars flew in to help in celebrating every

decade of Mr Clinton's life: Tony Bennett the 1940s, Jon Bon Jovi the 1950s, Aretha Franklin and Smokey Robinson the 1960s, Carly Simon the 1970s, Kenn Rogers and Jennifer Holliday the 1980s and Shania Twain the 1990s. Whoopi Goldberg was MC.

For a mere \$100 Clinton fans could watch the event at one of the 80 locations around America to which it was being broadcast live by satellite, but even the cheapest ticket for the half itself was \$10,000. The \$10 million proceeds were not going into Mr Clinton's own pocket, of course, but into Democratic campaign coffers. Mr Clinton's indisputable achievement of middle-age

helps to undermine Bob Dole's new attempt to portray the President as a callow baby-boomer and himself as part of the generation that made the United States great.

In his speech to last week's Republican convention, Mr Dole, who is 73, dismissed the Clinton White House as an "elite who never grew up, never did anything real, never sacrificed, never suffered and never learnt". He called himself a "bridge" to "a time of confidence in action".

Mr Clinton seemed wistful about his birthday. He remarked that it was better than not reaching 50, but noted that he now had more birthdays than tomorrows.

'Iron fist' warning to Jordan rioters

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

RIOTING in the streets of Jordanian towns over the doubling of bread prices has ignited a political crisis in the Kingdom, with opposition parties uniting yesterday in an attempt to oust the Government.

King Hussein threatened to "respond with an iron fist", appearing on television on Saturday night to give warning that the country faced a choice between order and anarchy. He sent police in riot gear to crush the protests and placed the medieval fortress city of Karak, 55 miles south of Amman, under curfew.

Yesterday 11 opposition parties, including the powerful Islamic Action Front, formed a coalition to call for the removal of the Government, and insisted their followers would never accept King Hussein's "iron fist" policy. But they were deprived of their most important public platform when the King dissolved the lower house of parliament on Saturday.

The Government last night proclaimed the crisis over as the army arrested those suspected of taking part in the protests. "Things have come back to normal," Marwan Muasher, the Information Minister, said.

He would not say how long Karak, Jordan's fourth largest city, would remain under curfew, and confirmed the arrest of "several people who were responsible for acts of sabotage" during two days of protests.

Karak residents rushed yesterday to buy bread, food and other commodities during short breaks in the curfew while police and municipal workers again cleared debris, burnt tyres and rocks blocking streets to the city.

The unrest has raised fears for the future of Jordan, which under King Hussein, has emerged recently as an important player in the Middle East, with a stake in promoting stability in the region.

Russian airmen in daredevil escape from Afghan captors

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

SEVEN Russian airmen were on the way home to Moscow yesterday from the Gulf state of Sharjah after a daredevil escape from captivity in Afghanistan. They flew to safety at treetop level in an Ilyushin-76 transport plane.

Vitalii Ignatenko, a Russian Deputy Prime Minister, went to Abu Dhabi to meet the commercial aircrew who had been held for a year by Taleban militiamen. He praised their heroism and prepared them for a tumultuous welcome in Moscow, where news of their escape after the repeated breakdowns

of negotiations with the kidnappers has lifted the spirits of a nation sunk into gloom by the fighting in Chechnya.

Mr Ignatenko also hinted that the Russian Government and several other countries had helped the men to get away, but he gave no details. He counted the United States, Morocco, India and Pakistan among countries co-operating. An American senator, Hank Brown, also said yesterday that he had played an active role by persuading the Afghan captors to give the men access to their aircraft.

The seven said that during

their captivity in Kandahar they began to lose hope when their captors repeatedly changed their demands during negotiations with Moscow. On Friday they requested access to their aircraft to do regular maintenance to keep it airworthy. Then they put into action an escape plan they had meticulously worked out over months.

After three attempts to start the engines failed, three of the Taleban captors left for mid-day prayers and the crew were left under the supervision of three junior guards, Vladimir Sharpatov, the chief pilot,

finally started one of the four motors with a battery and in turn got the other three going. The crew overpowered the guards and took off, just managing to fly over two Taleban vehicles that rushed to block the runway.

Tying up the guards, two of whom were armed with Kalashnikov rifles, the crew flew at treetop height to avoid radar detection, but were chased by a MiG fighter and a helicopter. However, the Taleban, late in starting because a plane had a punctured tyre, could not catch them. Flying over Pakistani and Iranian airspace, the men landed in the United Arab Emirates, a favourite destination of Russian shoppers and tourists.

The three guards were handed over to UAE police. Taleban threatened retaliation, causing brief panic in Sharjah with rumours of an attack.

"It was unbelievable yesterday and the day before... but today we can believe it," Yuri Vshivtsev said of their escape.

The crew, who worked for the Aerostan transport company based in Tatarstan, had been captured after their plane was forced down last August. They were accused of smuggling ammunition from Albania to the Kabul government of President Rabbani. Taleban said this was proof of Russian support for Kabul.

Senator Brown, who was in Afghanistan to discuss peace negotiations between the warring factions, said the men's escape opened the way for a settlement in the country.

Leading article, page 19

ABBEY NATIONAL INTEREST RATES

Notice of change of Abbey National's Mortgage Interest Rate.

The standard variable rate of interest charged to existing Abbey National borrowers (including former National & Provincial borrowers) with variable interest rate mortgages will reduce by 0.25% per annum to 7.04%.

This change will take effect on 1st September 1996 unless the terms and conditions currently applying to your mortgage specify a period of notice before an interest rate reduction is effective. In that case the period of notice will apply before the reduction takes effect and the period of notice will commence on the 1st September 1996.

Please note that:

If your mortgage is administered by Abbey National Mortgage Finance plc then the change will take effect on the 3rd August 1996.

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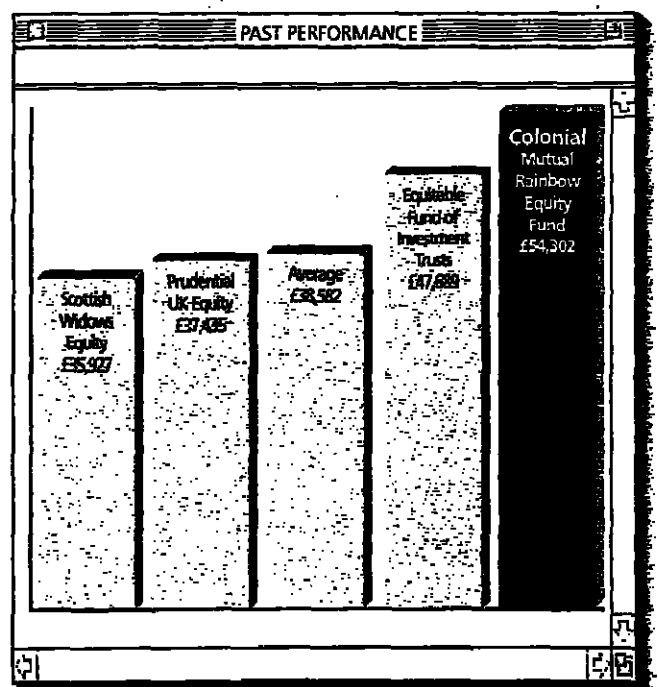
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Town split over Orange order

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN ORANGE, PROVENCE

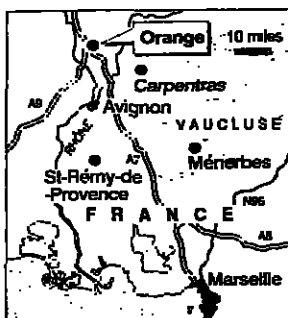
ORANGE, the scene of so many past religious conflicts and the city which gave the Orangemen of Northern Ireland their name, is again embroiled in an ideological battle, this time between the right-wing National Front and its opponents.

After little more than a year in office, Jacques Bompard, the National Front Mayor of Orange, has become one of the most feared and detested men in France, and a hero to the extreme Right second only to Jean-Marie Le Pen, the National Front leader.

M Bompard's political "crusade" in Orange has attracted the backing of ultra-traditionalist Roman Catholics, and the determined opposition of the central Government. The mayor's enemies say his administration is guilty of bullying, nepotism and cultural censorship. Two municipal employees have committed suicide since his election and critics say M Bompard's autocratic methods have brought an atmosphere of distrust to this idyllic Provençal city of 30,000 people.

The political struggle came to a head this month when M Bompard banned his oppo-

Hero of France's far Right is accused of bullying, nepotism and censorship



Government would provide the necessary grant.

M Bompard "has an isolationist concept of culture and an authoritarian vision of power," M Douste-Blazy said. One municipal employee was reportedly summoned by the mayor after she had been overheard making disparaging remarks at a dinner with friends in a local restaurant. Another was reprimanded for giving a lift to a known National Front opponent.

In June Pierre Nouveau, a city employee who had been transferred to the lowly parking department, committed

suicide in his office. Before he shot himself, M Nouveau wrote a note blaming M Bompard and two of his aides. M Bompard has suggested that M Nouveau, like another employee who suffered severe injuries after attempting to burn herself to death in her car, was guilty of corruption.

For the various associations that have sprung up to defy the National Front mayor, the dispute over the ordering of library books and the banning of leaflets on the streets of Orange was the final proof that M Bompard was attempting full-scale censorship or, in the words of M Le Pen, to "govern minds by culture".

According to a government report for the Culture Ministry, the National Front had consistently avoided buying books that covered such subjects as racism and rap music. Literature reflecting "high morals" were favoured, but the booklist drawn up by the city reportedly included works by anti-Semites, Fascists and Nazi collaborators.

Last week a tribunal in

Marseille ruled that M Bompard's ban on the distribution of leaflets was a flagrant assault on freedom of expression, but the response of the mayor and his allies was typically nonchalant. The book-ordering policy was an attempt to broaden the city's reading material to include all shades of opinion, they claimed, while the leaflets ban was intended to prevent litter in the streets.

For the ruling Gaullist party, facing legislative elections in 1998, M Bompard's regime represents more than an isolated political oddity. National Front mayors were also elected in Toulon and Marignane, while M Le Pen attained a record 15 per cent in the presidential elections. With unemployment growing and resentment over immigration increasing, observers say that the National Front may be set for more gains.

Orange's growing notoriety as the showcase for the extreme Right in power has left many inhabitants tense and fractious. At the municipal library, the rule of silence is total, since the mayor ordered staff not to speak to journalists and the head librarian resigned.

Brave new world, page 14



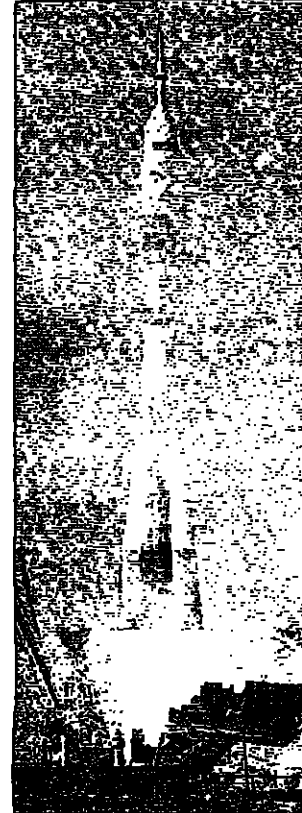
Claudie André-Deshays says farewell before blasting off from Baikonur, below

French first as woman joins Mir

THE first Frenchwoman in space, Claudie André-Deshays, headed towards the Mir space station yesterday, earning herself a place in history (Ben Macintyre writes).

Mme André-Deshays, 39, a neuroscientist, will carry out a 16-day mission to study the effects of weightlessness on human beings in the orbiting station, which has been manned permanently since 1996.

The rocket carrying the French woman and two Russian cosmonauts, Valery Korzun and Aleksandr Kalery, took off on Saturday from Baikonur, in Kazakhstan. The spaceship is scheduled to dock with Mir today, when the new arrivals will join the two Russians and an American woman on board.



Chiracs under strain

BY BEN MACINTYRE

IN AN unprecedented admission of marital strain, Bernadette Chirac, the wife of President Chirac of France, has described her husband as a preoccupied, critical man with whom she no longer shares her thoughts.

In an interview with Europe 1 radio, to be broadcast today, Mme Chirac said that her husband demands absolute si-

lence when watching football on television, does not solicit her views on matters of import and seldom compliments her. "The President is not an expert in conjugal praise. When everything is going well, he says nothing. When certain things are not right, he does not hesitate to point them out," she said.

The interview was the first time Mme Chirac has discussed her marriage in public.

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Are we sentenced to be forever fatties?

Anjana Ahuja on the research breakthroughs which promise a cure for the plague of obesity

Our perspective on fatness has changed down the ages. In the distant past, the ability to store fat was an evolutionary advantage, allowing human beings to survive times of famine. Large women were celebrated as models of fertility and health, and immortalised by painters such as Rubens.

Now society regards spare flesh as taboo, exhorting us to rid ourselves of ample hips and rounded bellies at any cost. The reasons? The fact that we now live longer has allowed the link between obesity and illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure to emerge. And, advertisers tell us, thin equals glamorous. The only problem is that a steady flow of scientific results suggests that we may have little control over how portly we become.

The latest peg in this argument came last week with the publication of a paper in *Nature*, highlighting the discovery of yet another gene influencing obesity. By knocking out a gene called *RII-beta*, G. Stanley McKnight and colleagues at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle were able to create mice which remained slim even when fed fatty diets.

A flood of similar findings during the past three years has revolutionised attitudes to obesity. "Obesity is now becoming a respectable illness, which is a major swing in medical thinking," says Professor Philip James, who heads the Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen, and the World Health Organisation's International

Taskforce on Obesity. Within the next six weeks, Professor James and fellow experts will report to the National Health Service in Scotland on how anti-obesity drugs should be managed.

He says: "Everyone used to view obesity as a personal problem which could be overcome with willpower, and this approach had very puritanical overtones. Now we are realising that those views are hopelessly misplaced. Telling people to just eat less is bonkers."

Obesity, or having too much body fat, is a medical condition which is reaching epidemic proportions in the developed world. A person is defined as obese if he weighs at least 20 per cent more than the maximum desirable weight for his height. The condition tends to run in families, with the children of obese parents ten times more likely than others to end up with the same condition. Studies of twins raised apart have shown that weight depends very much — up to 80 per cent — on genes. So it was unsurprising when, three years ago, hard evidence of a genetic link began to emerge.

Using rats and mice, five genes which influence weight gain have been identified. These have been christened *Agouti Yellow*, *Fat*, *Tubby*, *Diabetes* (or *db*) and *Obese* (or *ob*). *RII-beta* now joins this list.

Of these, *Obese* was regarded as the most spectacular finding. Scientists at Rockefeller University in New York found that *Obese* encoded the instructions to produce leptin, a hormone produced by fat cells. A faulty *Obese* gene resulted in rats ballooning to three times



Are we really what we eat? Junk food and an inactive life may play a part in obesity, but increasingly scientists believe that our weight may be controlled by genes

their normal size, suggesting that leptin could be the chemical that persuades us we are no longer hungry. Injecting it seemed to cure extreme obesity, and when this work was made public last summer, it was seen as a potentially lucrative milestone. Trials of leptin injections on humans are already under way.

The genetics of obesity have been seized on by respected experts such as Dr Rudolph Leibel, from the Rockefeller University Hospital, who believes we have a predestined "set weight" upon which exercise and dieting have little impact. As shown by a study Dr Leibel conducted last year, our bodies will put up a substantial fight against attempts to change them.

"Lowering body weight experimentally led to the metabolism slowing down, and this was true for all sizes of subject," Dr Leibel says. "That's pretty strong evidence that

our bodies like to maintain or defend a certain amount of body fat." Chemical feedback loops ensure that as food intake varies our hunger pangs and metabolism adjust accordingly. He says: "The discovery of these genes shows where the loops might be."

"We should encourage people to slim only if they have weight-related health problems, and they should lose enough weight for the problem to go away."

Critics of the "set-weight" argument say that, if we are destined to always weigh 10st, then our intake of fat should make little difference, a proposal not borne out by study. They argue that environment has a large part to play, and explains why obesity is rising across the

Telling people to just eat less is simply bonkers

world. Dr Leibel does not dispute that environment matters. "If you took a bunch of obese people and put them in an environment without food, then obviously you would have no obese people," he says.

Professor James puts a slightly different spin on the genes-versus-environment debate: "There are two factors which mean that obesity is rising. One is physical inactivity and the other is a high-fat diet. However, some people are naturally more resistant to obesity than others. I would say that our genes contribute to how susceptible we are to our environment, and this lies somewhere between 25 and 75 per cent."

As the magazine *Scientific American* reports this month, making

the link between tubby rats and corpulent humans has not been easy. However, if the secret of slenderness is hidden away in our biology, can we find a drug to unlock it? With unimaginable riches awaiting the company which can deliver in a pill the lithe, fat-free figures most of us crave, scientists in the field are working flat out. *Scientific American* lists 12 commercial studies into anti-obesity drugs. These trials variously target the brain (to reduce the signals we interpret as hunger pangs), the digestive tract (to lower the proportion of food digested, or to block appetite) and fat levels (to speed up fat-burning).

Dexfenfluramine, which increases levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin to quell appetite, has already won approval from the US Food and Drug Administration, and is also available in Britain. Professor James is heading a trial

at the Rowett Research Institute into Sibutramine, which fights hunger by boosting the levels of serotonin and noradrenaline in the brain. Results will be out at the end of next year.

Such drug treatments and even surgery, coupled with dietary advice and an active lifestyle, are the only way we will be able to tackle the snowballing problem of obesity, according to Professor James.

"This is the most exciting time for many years. We are striding ahead scientifically and also beginning to overcome the understandable prejudice of the past 30 years against anti-obesity drugs. And only two weeks ago the Government announced it would review its stance on drugs."

He adds: "Obesity is a phenomenal debilitating condition, and we have an epidemic on our hands. It's ridiculous that we have only just started dealing with it."

New theory on nature's big sleep □ Mapping the meteor craters

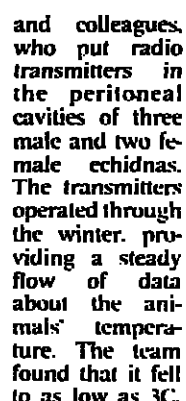
Wake up to hibernation

SCIENTISTS used to think that they understood hibernation pretty well. Advanced mammal species had developed the knack of sleeping through the northern winter in order to escape the cold and lack of food. To survive, they turned down their metabolism to tick-over, and built up large stocks of brown fat which were used to kick-start things back into action in the spring.

The first signs that this was only part of the story came at the end of the 1980s, when Australian scientists were finally able to prove that the echidna — or spiny anteater — hibernates in winter. The echidna is not a highly evolved mammal but rather a primitive one, sharing with the duck-billed platypus the un-mammalian habit of laying eggs.

There had long been dispute over whether the echidna hibernated, some asserting that it did, and others that it didn't. Sightings of the animals in late winter and early spring above the snow line in a New South Wales national park suggested that they must be hibernators, since they could have got there only by crossing several miles of snow, or more likely emerging briefly from a burrow.

The issue was finally settled by Gordon Grigg, of the University of Queensland,



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

and colleagues, who put radio transmitters in the peritoneal cavities of three male echidnas. The transmitters operated through the winter, providing a steady flow of data about the animals' temperature. The team found that it fell to as low as 3°C, from its usual level of about 31°C.

35°C or so throughout the night, falling abruptly in the early morning to about 20°C, reaching a minimum at 8am and then slowly rising again. This is not so much hibernation as torpor, but the effects are similar.

Other researchers have found marsupials that can hibernate and, like the echidna, can stir themselves into action again when they wake up without the benefit of brown fat. So all the classic

features of hibernation appear to have been updated, as Doctor Andrew Cossins, of Liverpool University, and Doctor Brian Barnes, of the University of Alaska, remark in a report of the Tasmania conference in the current issue of *Nature*. Far from being a habit unique to advanced mammals in the winter, it is shared by all sorts of creatures in both hemispheres. Even the name is now wrong, since it derives from the Latin for winter quarters.

One of the greatest puzzles is the process of waking up in the spring. Animals that lack brown fat must have some other mechanism for generating heat. One possibility is that they shiver themselves back to life. Some small marsupial hibernators certainly are vigorous shivers, though the echidna does not appear to use this method.

Two major problems remain unsolved, says Cossins and Barnes. The first is why hibernating animals of all types bother to wake up periodically during hibernation — answering a call of nature is the obvious explanation that occurs, and it may even turn out to be the true one — and the other is how hibernators manage to survive body temperatures so low that they would surely kill any non-hibernator.

Where life on Mars was born

A PLANETARY scientist at the University of Central Florida believes she has located the most likely source on Mars of the meteorite recently identified as showing hints of primitive life. Dr Nadine Barlow started from a catalogue of 42,283 Martian craters.

The rock of which the meteorite is made is 4.5 billion years old, meaning it must have come from the most ancient terrain on Mars. But it was ejected from the planet only about 16 million years ago, which means that the crater from which it came should still show very young features. Only large impacts, producing craters of 100

kilometres diameter or more, or smaller low-angle impacts are capable of ejecting material to form meteorites.

Using these criteria to narrow the search, Dr Barlow came up with 23 possibilities. She then used images taken by the Viking spacecraft to eliminate all those that appeared more than 16 million years old. "That may sound like a long time but for geological processes it is very short, particularly for a planet which has experienced little geological activity for the past billion years," she says.

The two craters that emerged were both produced by a glancing blow, and are both in the heavily cratered southern highlands — one in the Sinus Sabaeus region and the other east of an area called Hesperia Planitia. Future landing missions by the US space agency NASA may now be targeted at these places.

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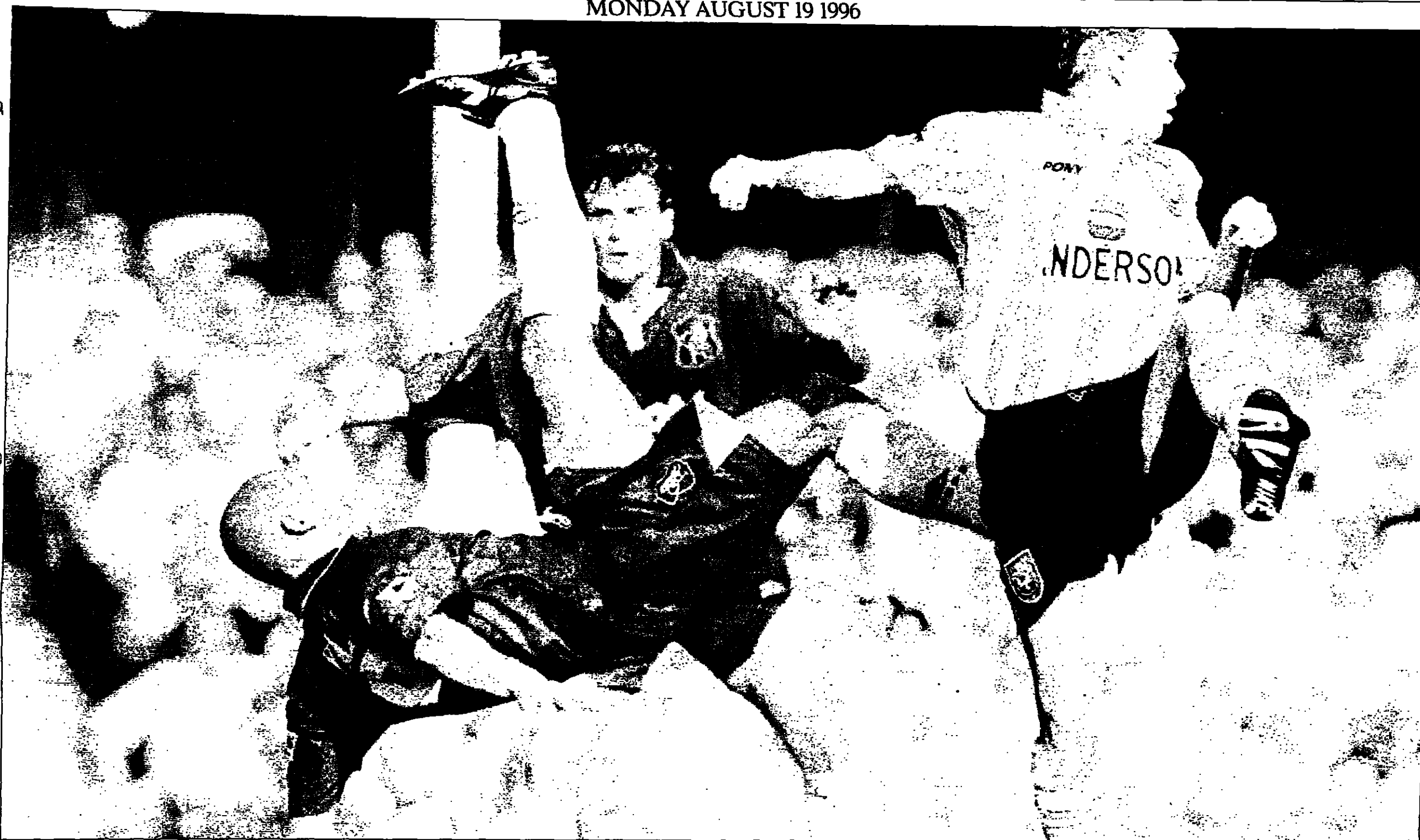
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TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY AUGUST 19 1996



Vialli launches himself into a spectacular overhead kick at The Dell yesterday. His effort hit the Southampton post to deny him a goal on his first appearance for Chelsea. Photograph: Laurence Griffiths

Southampton stand firm under Vialli's fire to share honours

Beasant draws Chelsea's sting

Southampton 0
Chelsea 0

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

AFTER it rained goals in the heatwave of Saturday, the temperature soared into the high 90s down at The Dell yesterday and somehow, from two teams so very disparate in earning power and potential, we had a drought.

The closest Gianluca Vialli came in his first appearance in the FA Carling Premiership to replicating Saturday's hat-trick by the ravenous Ravanelli up at Middlesbrough was to hit the base of a post with a wonderfully-controlled and inventive overhead kick and to demand two athletic saves from Dave Beasant.

In fact Chelsea, their league of nations such that only Wise and Myers were English in yesterday's team, threatened to overwhelm Southampton on their home ground almost as easily as sweat dripping off the brow.

The Southampton team are introducing Graeme Souness, on his return from Turkey, to a new experience: the art, or rather the artisan, craft of sheer muck and nettles survival from day one of their 19 consecutive seasons in top grade football.

They must, and Souness acknowledges it, hold on to Le Tissier, must find players to prompt and inspire him, and must not make it so obvious that he is their lone hope. Chelsea could afford to isolate

him by surrounding him with a posse of blue shirts — or at least they did after the first minute when Roberto Di Matteo who, at £4.9 million, cost almost twice the spending budget of Souness, mislaid a back pass. Le Tissier read his mind, turned and, looking up into the sun, chipped the ball delicately over the right shoulder of Kharine, dropping it onto the crossbar.

That was to be the closest to a goal by far for Southampton or Chelsea, who passed the ball more fluidly and contrived 15 shots, only five of them on target and none, bar Vialli's effort against the post, able to beat Beasant.

"Right now what I have is a team of very honest players," said Souness. "I have come with the intention of getting together a side to go forward, to create chances, to excite the crowd. But today I could ask no more than the effort I got.

Matthew Le Tissier found it very difficult because of our system (which Southampton changed to 3-5-2 at half time). With only Shipperley up front, there were not a lot of options for him. But his attitude has been great in training, and only he could have created that chance out of nothing right at the start of the game."

Souness concluded that his team, until he can locate and persuade recruits, will have to grind out results and attempt to stay in a division of more gifted and affluent teams. Chelsea certainly being one. And though Glenn Hoddle, here at the first opportunity to watch Le Tissier, departed early, the new England coach's commitment to a player not unlike himself in terms of flair, will not, surely, evaporate in the heat of one arid afternoon.

What Hoddle had to admire, all of us, was the languid

elegance of Franck Lebeuf. He, a Frenchman tall, lean and prematurely balding, was the libero personified. He reads the game several paces ahead of opponents, he intercepts, he tries to create with passes up to 50 yards, and in one moment with an attempt from the halfway line to emulate Beckham, Lebeuf's shot from the semi-circle drifted wide of the net, wide of the huge grin on the face of Beasant.

But, with Di Matteo struggling to last the pace, apparently not having trained for 10 days because of a back injury, all in Chelsea blue was not convincing. "Roberto and Gianluca need rhythm," Ruud Gullit, the manager, who himself is recuperating after knee surgery, said. "You can see that these players are not yet fit, and if you look at my face you will see that I was disappointed with the result. We

controlled the game, we made all of the chances except one, but you have to win such games. We lost two points, and I have demanded of my players that they must be better."

Di Matteo, nonetheless, combined work rate with a presence on the ball that promises much. He could find Hughes or Vialli at a stroke, and if he wilted, then didn't we all? One who refused to, despite the fact that he has yet to wear a Chelsea shirt in the peak of condition following an early summer injury to an abductor muscle, was Vialli.

In the 11th minute, he had been subjected to a gruesome foul — Jason Dodd coming right through on his calf from behind. This has to be the definition of the premeditated foul from behind that Fifa wants outlawed. Referee Martin Bodenham's yellow card was insufficient punishment.

Insufficient, too, was the control of Wise when, early on, after Hughes and Burley had opened up the defence, he ran the ball too far off his shin, and was denied by the sprawling Beasant. That was how such a goalkeeper could compensate for a defence, at the heart of which was Richard Dryden, elevated from Bristol City at the age of 27, to face world class players.

Souness drooled at some of Vialli's work. Between the 55th minute and the 70th this big man, with huge, muscular thighs, a shaven head, and the desire to match his former running mate Ravanelli, burst goalwards.

Quite the most electric moment came when Myers skipped past Neilson. Myers' cross was also exquisite, and then Vialli launched himself off the ground, connected with the ball... but found the base of the post.

Thus, Chelsea's first match in the new adventure under Gullit, ended 0-0. Souness, for one, went home envious: "This is the first time I had seen Gianluca for some years," he said. "You could see that he will be an exceptional player here. You could see as the game went on him becoming more and more fox-like."

And so to Stamford Bridge on Wednesday where it will be Vialli in the blue corner versus Ravanelli in the red.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, A Neilson, R Dryden, S Charlton — M Oakley (15, Bournemouth 56 mins), J Magilton (sub, F Barall, 70 mins), B Venson, N Heaney — M Le Tissier, N Shipperley. CHELSEA (3-5-2): D Kharine — E Johnson, F Laboul, S Clarke — D Pirescu, D Wise, R Di Matteo, C Burley (sub, J Morris, 56 mins), A Myers — M Hughes, G Vialli. Referee: M Bodenham.

A GOAL TO SAVOUR AND A DEBUT TO REMEMBER IN THE PREMIERSHIP



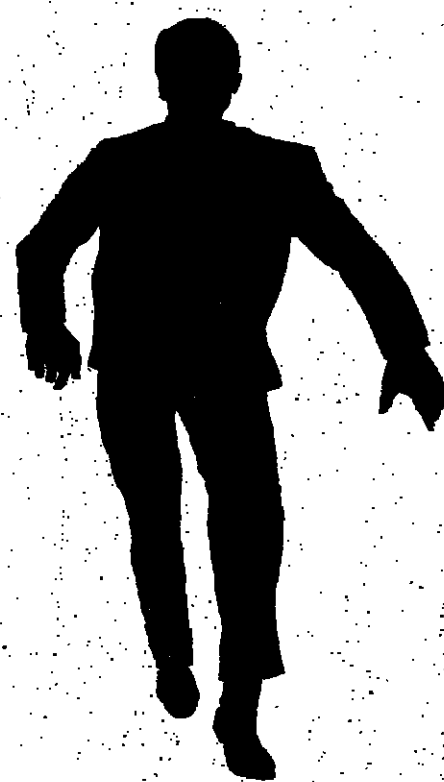
The third United goal was a gem of sublime effrontery by the improving David Beckham, lobbed over Sullivan from the halfway line. The conception and execution were remarkable. Even Pele did not quite bring it off in the 1970 World Cup.

Brian Glanville, page 24



But the Silver Fox was allowed once more into the hen-house of the Liverpool defence, and he got enough contact on Mustoe's pass to finish his hat-trick and to go into his now familiar berserker routine of celebration.

Simon Barnes, page 25



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FOOTBALL: ITALIAN STRIKER RAISES EUROPEAN STANDARD WITH STUNNING DEBUT DISPLAY

Teessiders fall for Ravanelli's tricks

As they do not call it a *trucco di capello*, but Ravanelli's triple-trick, or three-goal performance, was emphatically the trick of the day as, after a break of, well, several days at least, the FA Carling Premiership swung back into action again on Saturday, when Liverpool left the Riverside Stadium with a 3-3 draw.

There, in the sultry heat of Teesside, Fabrizio Ravanelli, making a journey from Juventus to Middlesbrough — in past eras the equivalent of making a pilgrimage away from Mecca — swapped three or four chipped passes with head and with foot, on the edge of the opposition penalty area, without once letting the ball touch the ground, with a shag-haired Brazilian playing as Middlesbrough's *libero*. Is this really a vignette of football in England?

Football's coming home, they told us all through the long summer, but where, pray, is home? Football, once the most xenophobic institution in England, has gone, tell me the opposite way, the game has been racked by attack after attack of xenophobia. What is more, there is another Brazilian, Branco, who cannot get into the Middlesbrough side. Is this the ultimate statement of the prevailing mood of the Premiership?

In some ways, Ravanelli's transfer, at £7 million, is the strangest move of the lot. Even 'Is the Premiership expanded in recent seasons and took on such big-name foreigners as Klinsmann and, later, Gullit, the cry went up: ah yes, all very well, but it is in Italy, in Serie A, that you find the real thing. We just get the has-beens. With Ravanelli moving to the Premiership from Italy's footballing Olympus, the

SIMON BARNES



At Riverside Stadium

game's ancient values have been stood on their heads.

Is the Premiership really now the world's great league? Watch Ravanelli and Emerson perform that interchange and you think, yes; watch their Brazilian team-mate, Juninho, darting here and there in renewed and vitriolic confidence, and you find confirmation.

Or turn to Liverpool and see Barnes gliding about in mid-field in his dark red boots, or McManaman doing his cultic frolics all over the pitch, and you must say again, yes, this is a feast, and let us hope that every match of the endless season is like this: six goals shared, any amount of glorious attacking, a day to put the spring into the step of anyone with a taste for footy.

The match gave us the first goal in the Premiership as Bjornebye, moving sweetly goal-side of the defence, put Liverpool ahead after four minutes from Barnes's free kick. Ravanelli equalised from a penalty, and the moment filled him with a fire that lasted him the rest of the match.



Ravanelli celebrates the second of his three goals for Middlesbrough in idiosyncratic fashion on Saturday

Barnes put Liverpool ahead again, another player getting ahead of a hesitant defence, but then, Liverpool, dozing from a quickly-taken free kick, allowed Cox to cross for Ravanelli to ruck the ball away with prodigious pace.

That was half-time, and you know there would be more goals. Fowler put Liverpool ahead, and James's tremendous save from Ravanelli appeared to have made the match safe, but the Silver Fox was allowed once more into the hen-house of the Liverpool defence, and he got enough contact on Mustoe's pass to

finish his hat-trick and to go into his now familiar berserker routine of celebration.

All jolly amusing, and so forth, but, after the match, I spoke to the reporter from *Gazzetta dello Sport*, a man with an air of a Borgias cardinal. "A nice match, yes," he agreed. "And perhaps now they will buy some Italian defenders."

Yes, well, rather a good point, actually. The English can now claim to have the most entertaining league in the world. Certainly, the Premiership is a great circus, and unquestionably it sells a lot of

shirts. This is a great bubble of delight, and those like Ravanelli who come seeking the bubble reputation with the right sincerely find themselves greatly loved.

It is also hard to find in one's heart a dislike for those managers who throw such delightful and skilled attackers at us: it fills hearts and stadiums, and my dear, you are just nobody on Teesside without your No 11 Ravanelli shirt — and have you got the away-kit version, too?

But, all the same, there is not so much a lack of defence as a lack of seriousness in the

Premiership as the season begins. There is abroad a mood almost of frivolity. As if all clubs bar one were really competing for second place. As if it were necessary to sell style rather than content, entertainment rather than sport. All very well; and a scuffle is a wonderful dish. But when it comes to the crunch, it is just scrambled eggs.

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So, while television's preoccupation with Seventies nostalgia last week revived the 1977-78 season, when Forest won the first division title and little Ipswich Town won the FA Cup, Clark knows that, with the game's real wealth now concentrated in fewer hands, the chances of a team of such stature emulating the feat are slim.

"Reading the papers it was almost as if we weren't play-

Humphreys turns tide for Wednesday

Sheffield Wednesday 2
Aston Villa 1

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

IF THE FA Carling Premiership previews are to be believed, Sheffield Wednesday are certain strugglers, while Aston Villa are possible championship contenders.

For nearly an hour of Saturday's game at Hillsborough, both teams looked those parts; but you would be hard pressed to explain what happened next without resorting to one of those timeless football truisms — goals change games.

In fact, Richie Humphreys's 55th-minute strike for Sheffield Wednesday engendered a surge of confidence in his team that it could prove to have changed their season, let alone this match. That the score in question was a candidate for goal of the month, from a locally-born player, just 18 and making his full home debut, only added to the moment.

Until then, Villa had looked comfortably in control of a rather uncommensurate match by present Premiership standards — Milosevic, Nelson and Currie were missing, and the only new signings on parade were David Pleat's Nationwide League acquisitions.

Wednesday's tendency to play the predictable, safe pass meant that their only threat was Regi Blinker, the Dutchman. It was Blinker's forward ball that Pembroke headed on for Humphreys, tipped as

having a brilliant future by Marco van Basten, no less, to volley fiercely past Oakes from just inside the box. "Humphreys is a good technical player," David Pleat, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said. "His timing is very good, although he didn't shoot it today. Well, he showed it when it counted, for one second."

Wednesday were transformed. Nolan launched searching runs from left back; Booth, living up to his manager's description as "the best young English centre forward in the air", went close twice; and headers and shots flew at Oakes (in for the injured Bosnich) from all angles.

When Villa hit back, Pressman repelled all comers, and it was no surprise when this new, direct, ultra-confident Wednesday extended their lead. Blinker again crossed from the left and Whittingham's header looped beyond Oakes. Oakes was called upon to perform further heroics before Johnson headed in Wright's cross to give Villa a chance, but Wednesday conquered a late anxiety attack and hung on.

Pleat, meanwhile, is expecting to sign Orlando Trustfull, a former team-mate of Blinker's at Feyenoord.

Sheffield Wednesday (4-4-2): K. Pressman, P. Atherton, D. Walker, D. Selous, J. Housie, G. Whittingham, W. Collins, M. Pembroke (sub: G. Hyslop, 70 min), R. Blinker, A. Booth, R. Humphreys (sub: S. Oakes, 80).
Aston Villa (3-5-2): M. Cokes, U. Ehorogu, G. Southgate, S. Staunton, S. Murray (sub: J. Johnson, 58), A. Townsend, I. Taylor, M. Draper, A. Wright, D. Yorke, T. Roberts (sub: J. Lawrence, 64), E. Hickey (sub: S. J. Lodge).

Armstrong double rubs salt in Rovers' wounds

Blackburn Rovers 0
Tottenham Hotspur 2

BY PETER BALL

THE injury to Gary Mabbutt spoilt Tottenham Hotspur's win but the game was dominated by another absentee. The ghost of Alan Shearer cast a long shadow over Blackburn Rovers. It took only two minutes for the familiar, long, drawn-out chant of "Shearer, Shearer" to echo round Ewood Park. But it came from the Tottenham fans, and it was sung mockingly.

As Blackburn's early chances went begging, it recurred, but as the team lost confidence, the chants became more pointed. "Those songs will go on all year. We'll just have to get used to that," Kevin Gallacher said. "We know that we can shut them up by scoring. We've just got to get on with it, put the ghost of Alan Shearer away, and forget about it."

Easier said than done. By the end, the Tottenham songsters were belting a derisive "Will you ever score again?" Of course they will, but it was difficult to see how or who. Apart from the pace of Donis, there was little to trouble Tottenham. They have only made one relatively minor signing and probably need a couple of big ones to really be title contenders, but they are evidently a team on the up. By contrast, the departure of Shearer has left Blackburn bereft. Yet they began deceptively well on Saturday.

For half an hour, Sherwood led by example and exhortation, gestulating, waving, pointing, winning the ball constantly in midfield and using it purposefully. But Donis's sorties came to nothing as there was no one to convert his inviting crosses.

Meanwhile, Tottenham were in some disarray. After 20 minutes, Mabbutt went down after a block tackle with Fenton, was taken off, got up and tried to run and went down in a heap. A broken shin bone was diagnosed.

Nethercott, his replacement, lasted nine minutes before he, too, was led away with blood on his sock. Fenton, again, was involved and this time Tottenham fingers pointed angrily at the Blackburn player. "Nethercott has a gash through to the bone, and our players thought it was a late tackle," Gerry Francis, the manager, said.

Campbell moved in to play with authority alongside Calderwood, and soon Tottenham took the lead with a splendid goal. Howells, who grew in excellence as the game went on, crossed for Armstrong to come in on the blind side and leave Flowers helpless with a stooping header.

From that moment Blackburn's confidence fell away. "The first goal changed the players' minds, and we didn't express ourselves," Ray Harford, the manager said. "We weren't comfortable on the ball."

With Howells, Anderson, until he too departed with a groin strain, and Sheringham pulling the strings and Armstrong running eagerly, Tottenham stretched even Blackburn's solid defence to its limits. It cracked again as Fox crossed low and Armstrong arrived for his second goal. Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, was doubtless impressed.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flowers, G. Hyslop, C. Coleman, C. Hendry, J. Kerr, G. Binks, I. Sherwood, G. Farrant (sub: P. Wainwright, 70 min), S. Ripley (sub: I. Pearce, 46), K. Balaiche, G. Fenton.
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I. Walker, S. Campbell, C. Calderwood, G. Macabutt (sub: S. Nethercott, 20), sub: C. Wilson, 58, J. Edgar, R. Fox, D. Howells, D. Anderson (sub: J. Dozzell, 88), A. Senior, E. Sheeringham, C. Armstrong.

Referee: P. Jones

Caretaker Houston decides to stick with staple diet

Arsenal 2
West Ham United 0

BY PAT GIBSON

NOUVELLE cuisine it was not. The French connection has been made, but until Arsene Wenger has his Gallic touch to bear in five or six weeks' time, the Highbury fare will continue to be more bangers and mash than *paté de foie gras*.

Stewart Houston, who is now so well rehearsed in the caretaker role that his next call could well be from Harlow Pinter, admitted that he had spoken to "the chap" whom he has been "led to believe" will succeed Bruce Rioch as manager. But he decided not to tamper with the basic recipe that took Arsenal to fifth position in the FA Carling Premiership last year and a place in Europe.

He did not have much choice, anyway. Neither of the two Frenchmen who were signed in the bizarre aftermath of Rioch's sudden departure were available because Vieira, who cost £3.5 million from AC Milan, is completing his rehabilitation from injury in Italy, and Garde, who was out of contract with Strasbourg, has hardly trained all summer.

Also conspicuous by their absence were Adams, who has had another knee operation and will not play again until his recovery is complete, and Platt, who woke up late on Saturday morning with "a lower back problem" suffered in training and probably got another kick in a similar place for not letting Houston know about it until lunchtime.

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Apart from that, the caretaker was delighted with a performance which showed all the traditional Arsenal characteristics of strength and resilience in the face of adversity, and went some way towards relieving "the bitter taste in the mouth" left by Rioch's exit.

No one felt that bile more acutely than Keown, the acting captain, who was as close to Rioch as any of the players, so much so that he had a phone call from the former manager before the match to wish him all the best.

The team without a manager was undoubtedly helped by the fact that they were facing a side missing half their players. West Ham United were without the newly-signed Hail, Raducioiu and Futre as well as Dumitrescu, Bishop, Moncur, Potts and Cutce, and for all their possession, and one or two fleeting chances, they were always fighting a losing battle.

Arsenal had taken the lead in the 26th minute when Dixon turned up on the left of the West Ham penalty area and crossed for Harrison to force the ball past Milkosko, on to a post and finally into the net. Fifteen minutes later, Dixon set up the second goal in more conventional Arsenal style. Rieper handling his deep cross to prevent it from reaching Harrison and Bergkamp scoring from the resultant penalty.

For the time being at least, *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*.

ARSENAL (3-4-1-2): D. Seaman, M. Keown, A. Lingenhan, S. Bould, L. Dixon, R. Parker, S. Morrow, M. Westwood, D. Bergkamp (sub: I. Wright, 60 min), P. Harrison, J. Harrison, M. Fenton.
WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2): L. Milkosko, M. Rieper, S. Bile (sub: R. Ferdinand, 88), J. Dixon, T. Brackley, F. Lampard (sub: R. Slater, 64), D. Williams, M. Hughes, K. Rowland (sub: S. Lizarazu, 68), L. Down, S. Jones.

Referee: P. Dunne

Campbell's early resurgence the stuff of fantasy

Coventry City 0
Nottingham Forest 3

BY KEITH PIKE

IT IS the waking nightmare of every dream team manager: you have £50 million to spend, you are down to your last thirty bob, and you are still one striker short of a full complement. The only player available is Kevin Campbell: so you play with ten men and hope your keeper will pop up with a goal or two.

And then, of course, it happens. Campbell, who managed just three league goals last season, matches that tally within 47 minutes of the

new FA Carling Premiership campaign. Ravanelli may have ignited the Riverside Stadium, Beckham may have one hand on the goal-of-the-season award, but for pure, unadulterated fantasy, Highfield Road was the only place to be on Saturday.

This, assuredly, was not the Kevin Campbell who, when he was not sidelined by injury last season, even managed to be kept out of the Nottingham Forest side by Jason Lee and Andrea Silenzi, those goal-shy advertisements for the fresh fruit industry (well, pineapples and lemons, anyway).

This, instead, was the Campbell that defenders feared might one day

re-emerge: leaner, sharper, with a startling turn of pace and a ravenous appetite for goals. Each of his strikes had much to commend them — bravery for the first, accuracy for the second, and a display of mind-boggling ball-juggling for the third — and he might have had three more. It was a performance as outstanding as it was unexpected.

Not that Frank Clark, the Forest manager, was taken aback. "The pace was always there when he played for me as a teenager at Leyton Orient," Clark said. "Kevin had a disappointing time last season, but he has worked very hard and he looked a quality centre forward today. I knew

that he would be a good acquisition for us. My faith in him never wavered."

Clark knows, though, that just as one hat-trick does not make Campbell, at 26, the finished article, so one victory, no matter how emphatic, does not turn Forest into title contenders. The good news was that Campbell's partnership with the eager Saunders gelled instantly, that Forest's defence allowed the unflappable Croatian, Jerkan, to add authority at its heart. The bad? They will not be playing Coventry City every week.

Ron Atkinson's team was a shambles. Coventry's first

strike at goal, with nearly an hour gone, drew ironic applause. McAllister, their £3 million recruit from Leeds United, was the best of a sorry bunch, but even he was reduced to frustrated posturing at the chaos around him.

So, while television's preoccupation with Seventies nostalgia last week revived the 1977-78 season, when Forest won the first division title and little Ipswich Town won the FA Cup, Clark knows that, with the game's real wealth now concentrated in fewer hands, the chances of a team of such stature emulating the feat are slim.

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Managers draw sparse comfort

Derby County 3
Leeds United 3

BY OLIVER HOLT

IT WAS clammy down in the corridors underneath the main stand at the Baseball Ground. The pink bows on the bedraggled bunch of flowers that had found its way on to the press room table had come undone and the daisies were wilting. Jim Smith, the Derby County manager, saw them as soon as he walked in. "It looks like a bloody wedding party in here," he said.

A minute earlier, Smith and his Leeds United counterpart, Howard Wilkinson, had walked out of the dressing-rooms together, shaking their heads like two fathers who had had to pay for the festivities. They looked careworn, exhausted. Smith gave Wilkinson a last slap on the side. "Not to worry," he said, by way of a catch-all consolation.

It had been one of those afternoons on Saturday: a day for the supporters to savour, full of excitement and good football, but seeming with errors. Not a day for managers. They want 1-0 wins and tight, unforgiving contests. For them, the fare on the opening day of the FA Carling Premiership season was too rich to digest on an empty stomach.

There were plenty of things for them to be thankful for, nevertheless. Most eyes were on Leeds's expensive new signings. Rush was quiet, but Martyn, the goalkeeper,

caught everything that came into the box with supreme confidence and could not be blamed for any of the goals. Bowyer, in midfield, was like quicksilver, hurtling up and down, making the first goal and scoring the third, and Sharpe, the £4 million man brought in from Manchester United, looked classy without being threatening.

Smith, though, appears to have done the best business of all, bringing Aljosa Asanovic, the Croatian midfielder player, to the Midlands from Hajduk Split. He trotted around with the air of a temperamental artist, throwing up his hands in horror every time a long ball was pumped into the box, but on each occasion he took possession, he spread danger. His runs were direct, his passing penetrative.

While he is on the pitch, there will always be hope for Derby in what will probably be a difficult first season in the Premiership. On Saturday, they showed all their renowned fighting spirit to claw back a two-goal deficit — Sturridge and Simpson replying after Laursen's own goal and Hartie's low shot — and then recover from what seemed to be Bowyer's deciding goal. Sturridge capitalising on Radebe's error.

DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2): R. Hault, G. Rowell, G. Bates, J. Laursen (sub: P. Simpson, 75 min), P. Parker, C. Daley, A. Asanovic, P. Fowler (sub: S. Ryan, 75), C. Powell, D. Sturridge, M. Gibson (sub: R. Williams, 75).
LEEDS UNITED (4-5-3): M. Martyn, L. Radebe (sub: D. Withall, 88), C. Palmer, R. Johnson, G. Kelly, A. Coleman (sub: M. Threlby, 88), M. Ford, L. Bowyer, L. Sharpe, I. Rush, B. Deane (sub: I. Harte, 56).
Referee: P. Dutton

Huff and puff fails to bring the house down

Sunderland 0
Leicester City 0

BY MARK HODKINSON

THE Union Jack on top of the Clock Stand at Roker Park hardly moved, even a reluctant breeze refusing to issue from the nearby North Sea to set it flutter. Down below, at pitch level, there was a hurricane of activity. Twenty-two athletes toiled in the cruel sun but it was all futile without some mastery, ingenuity, or even a goal, to douse the fire.

"Squeeze," was the repeated cry from the bench and

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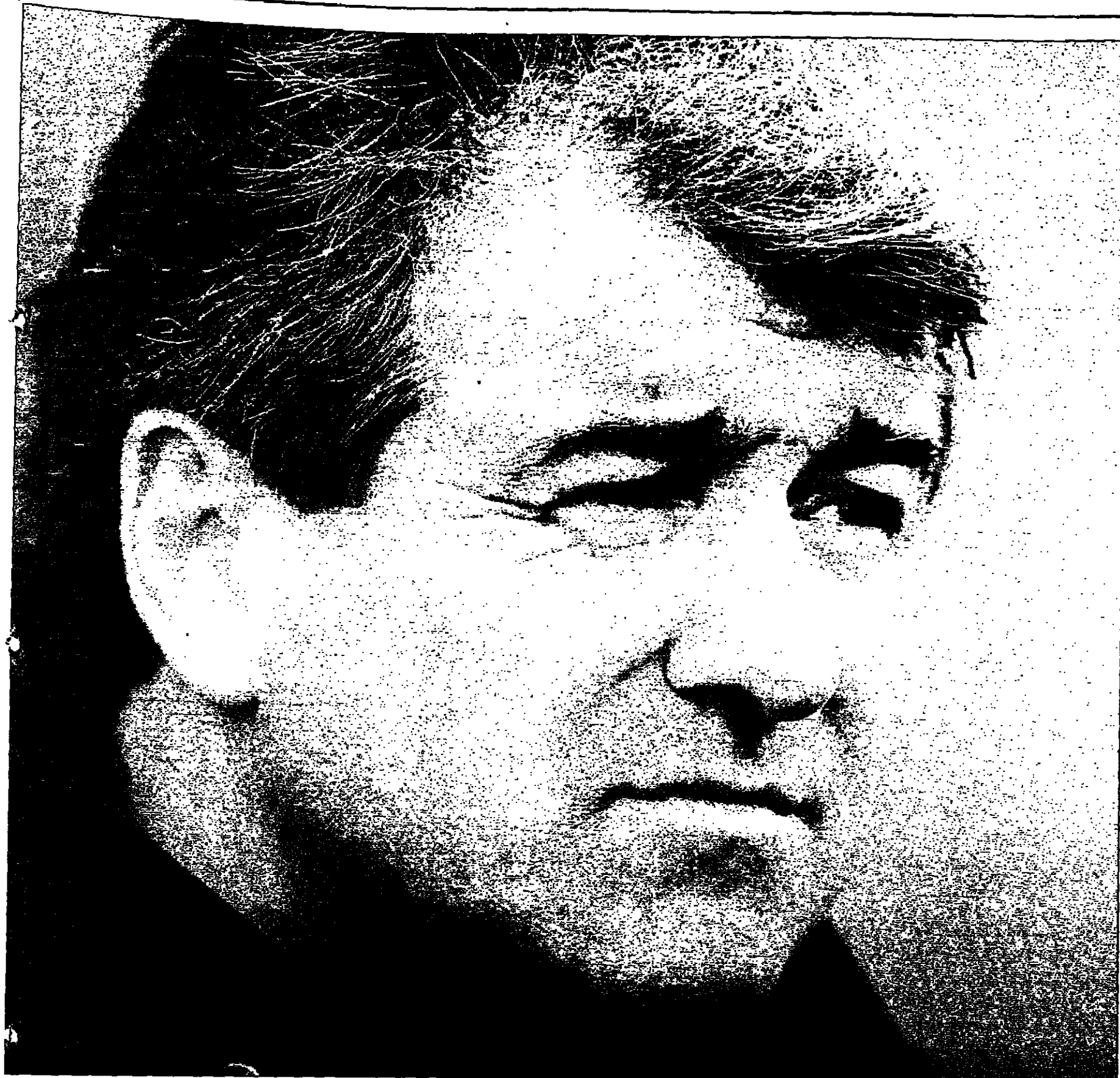
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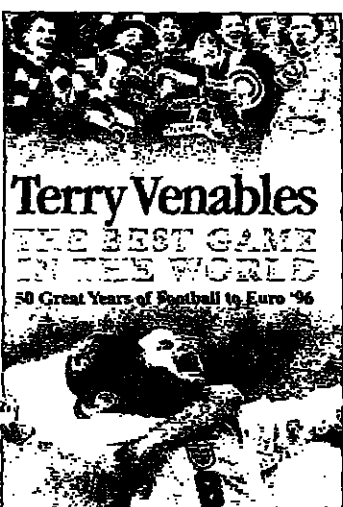
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Bound for a bumpy landing

BY TERRY VENABLES

England's Euro 96 build-up hardly ran smooth, with a much-criticised Far East trip and allegations of wild behaviour. But, in his new book, their coach says adverse publicity strengthened their resolve



Our preparation for the big event was wound up with a trip to the Far East that provoked criticism from beginning to end. For a start, nearly everyone seemed to come to the conclusion that it was madness to take the players on a 16,000-mile round trip to Peking and Hong Kong so close to a major tournament played in England. It would have made much more sense, argued the critics, to have prepared with games in Europe.

What they overlooked, or chose to ignore, was the oft-repeated explanation that the Football Association were anxious England should complete their Euro 96 preparations as far away from Europe as possible, so that the risk of an embarrassing outbreak of English hooliganism on the eve of the tournament could be minimised. In other words, the FA wanted us to play in places where the hooligans would find it difficult to follow.

We had three options. The other two were South Africa and America, but neither could give me the two games I wanted. I told the South Africans I would like one game in Johannesburg and one in Durban or Cape Town, because I felt we would have had to do a lot of coaching in Johannesburg if we'd stayed there all the time. Politically it would have been expected of us, and we would have been perfectly happy to do it in other circumstances; but I thought it might bring unnecessary pressures on the eve of a major tournament.

The American option, taken up by Scotland, was not a great deal different to our trip in terms of the travelling time. In fact, it was more difficult because you normally suffer more from jet-lag when you are coming forwards in time, as you are when travelling from the States to Britain.

In any case, modern sport is all about global travel. Brazil, for instance, think nothing of hopping on a plane to fly over 5,000 miles to play a game in the Middle East, then getting back on the plane and going home. And what about tennis players on the grand prix circuit? I

was listening to the radio during Wimbledon fortnight, and I couldn't help chuckling when I heard what their itinerary is like. They are in California one minute, then they go to Hong Kong, Australia and France before fetching up at Wimbledon. How can you play world sport sitting still, or just travelling for an hour and a half? I think it was naivety and ignorance that made so many people critical of our trip to the Far East.

No one was willing after Euro 96, though, to say it did us no harm physically. I had a bit of banter about it with Gary Lineker, because he was one of those who claimed it had been a bad decision to take the players on such a long trip. I said to him: "Why don't you admit you were wrong? Did we play for 120 minutes in two games on the trot in five days? Did we look less fit than anyone else? Did we look less relaxed than anyone else? So why criticise the trip? I think your problem was that you were imagining how it would have been eight years ago, when you were a player. It's different now."

There always used to be this talk about how English footballers were more tired than anyone else when it came to the finals of a major tournament because their season was longer and harder than anyone else's. But our performances in Euro 96 proved that, despite the rigours of an English football season and a long trip to the Far East, the English footballer can be as fit as anyone in the world if the right amount of thought and preparation is applied to the situation.

We chose China and Hong Kong in the end because they could guarantee us two games and because I was impressed by the rate at which Chinese football is developing. In fact, the FA should be thinking about taking England back there, or somewhere nearby, at least three times in the next six years in preparation for the finals of the 2002 World Cup, which is to be shared by Japan and South Korea. The Chinese are certainly going to catch up very quickly. Lazio and Sampdoria had played in Peking before us, so the Chinese seem to have a strong tie-up with Italy. They obviously feel the Italians are the best opponents, it gives them a benchmark for what they are doing, and I think that's wise of them.

Our 3-0 win in Peking was beneficial in all sorts of ways. Southgate really blossomed in that game. He was outstanding, in fact. The young Neville brothers, Gary and Philip, also shone. Gary certainly showed what he could do. I think it was the first time he and Tony Adams had played together. The 1-0 win in Hong Kong also had its benefits, even though it wasn't successful as a match. It enabled me to involve all the players.

There were insinuations all along that the only reason we went to China and Hong Kong was mon-

ey. The financial incentive for going happened to be good, but that was not the real motivation, which was to get two more games. And the more I look back, the more I think I was right to take England there. The players and I could not possibly have taken another ten days at the Burnham Beeches Hotel, nice as it is. The pressures of living in a goldfish bowl for a month were quite severe enough without extending the period any further. Not only that, but everything we had set out to do in China and Hong Kong worked as well as, if not better than, we had hoped.

Everything except the Cathay

everyone jumped to was that, because the flight home coincided with Paul Gascoigne's 29th birthday, the players had been involved in a wild party on the upper deck.

Yet nothing really happened on the plane. If I told the whole story, no one would believe it. The truth would certainly exonerate the players. Unfortunately, I cannot set the record straight because it might lead to the sacking of a member of the Cathay Pacific staff.

All I can say is that those newspapers which accused Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman of causing the damage have got a big problem. I don't know whether

different times. Ted Buxton, my assistant, went up there at one point to sort out a complaint from a stewardess who claimed Gazza had been abusive to her, but that was the only sign of trouble so far as I was aware. There was certainly no noise coming from the upper deck.

I was determined myself not to go to sleep until about seven hours into the flight so that I could stay in line with English time. During that period, Gary Newbon, the ITV sports interviewer, and I had a long chat at the bottom of the stairs leading up to the upper section of business class. We didn't hear a sound from up there, yet nobody

They were not doing anybody any harm, they were not causing any trouble and not breaking curfew. From the hysterical reaction back home you'd have thought they had raped and pillaged their way through Hong Kong

Pacific flight home, that is. Some nine hours after we had landed, the airline alleged that two of the mini-television sets which are built into the backs of business-class seats and a seat tray-table had been damaged in the upper deck section of the jumbo jet, where the players were sitting during the 14-hour journey to Heathrow.

Although no pictorial evidence of the alleged vandalism was ever produced, Cathay Pacific claimed it would cost £5,000 to repair the damage and the FA paid up without any argument. The conclusion

those two are going to continue with their legal action, but they would wipe the floor with their accusers in court if they did. I wasn't there on the upper deck myself, but guys I just don't believe would tell lies all say the same thing. I questioned certain players individually about the incident and they all told me the same story.

Only a small number of them were involved, anyway, because most of the squad were fast asleep during the flight home. I know that for a fact because more than one FA official visited the upper deck at

bothered to interview Gary when I invited the press to ask him for his version of events. Colin Malm was sitting near the bottom of the stairs, too, and he confirms that if there was a party going on, it must have been an unusually quiet one.

Much was made, too, of the visit by a handful of players to the China Jump Club in Hong Kong on the last night of the trip to the Far East. The pictures that appeared in the papers of them, their clothes torn and having tequila poured into their mouths while strapped into an old dentist's chair, were unfur-

nate, I'll admit. But they were not doing anybody any harm, they were not causing any trouble and they were not breaking curfew. They had been given the night off, and they all returned to the hotel by the 2am deadline I set. Not only that, but the bulk of the squad did not even leave the hotel.

From the hysterical reaction back home, though, you'd have thought they had raped and pillaged their way through Hong Kong. Again, Gazza took most of the criticism because it was his birthday and he figured most prominently in the pictures. I was annoyed by the reaction because it was made to look as though discipline was slack in the England squad. Yet I've never had any problem on that score throughout my 20-year career as a coach and manager.

I am fairly easy going, but the players know there is a line they mustn't cross. I used to say to them: "If you were with your wife and young children and there was a bunch of 12 guys swearing and effing and blinding and slamming doors, would you like it? No? Well don't do it to anyone else then. If you want to do it, go and do it somewhere else."

I hate that sort of thing so much. I once put a player on the transfer list for verbally abusing a waiter while we were abroad. I also suspended the German international, Bernd Schuster, for a year at Barcelona. That was his punishment for walking out of the stadium in a huff after I substituted him during the 1986 European Cup final against Steaua Bucharest. It was irresponsible behaviour because, had we won — not lost — on penalties, he could have cost us the game if he had been selected for a drugs test and not been available.

As for the drinking side of it, you've got to use a bit of psychology. If you ban players from going to a pub after Thursday, say, they'll go to one 30 miles out of town so you don't find out. You've got to try and make them understand why they shouldn't go out, and let them build up a conscience about it. I remember reading a magazine article about Vietnam, and they were saying the day of the Sergeant-Major has gone. Leadership has to be more skilful than that. Saying "don't do it because I say so" doesn't wash any more. You've got to be one of the boys, but not quite. That means they can talk to you, tell you what their problems are, but you've got to be removed. They've got to be comfortable with you, like your company in some ways and not want to lose it. That's how you make the relationship grow.

But I have to say the fuss over the night out in Hong Kong, and then over three players being spotted in an 11ford nightclub during the 36 hours they were given off after the Switzerland game, was out of all proportion to the 'offences'. They were put in perspective later by the

tales we heard about the drinking exploits in some of the other camps. At one point, it seems, every night was party night for the Czech Republic and they got to the final!

I'm not suggesting we should relax our attitude to drinking. In fact, we had a ban on alcohol throughout the week, and the players adhered to it strictly. But I just wish the media would not react so hysterically to what they interpret mistakenly for the most part, as footballers letting the side down.

In terms of psychology, the torrent of criticism directed at the players over the China Jump Club and Cathay Pacific incidents was not without its advantages. I have to be honest and say I saw it as an ideal opportunity to forge the spirit of togetherness in the squad that had been one of the objectives of the Far East trip anyway. It wasn't too hard to do, because I could see we were all upset about the way it was going and we all know that is the sort of thing team bonding is about. You feel hurt and aggrieved and develop an 'I'll show you' attitude.

When criticism is unjust and hurtful, it does make you fight. If you are guilty of doing something, it's hard to respond in a positive fashion, because you've just got to hold your hands up and accept the blame. I was criticised for introducing a policy of collective responsibility for the Cathay Pacific damage, but I could do that with a clear conscience because I knew nothing out of order had occurred on the flight home.

The united front certainly got us to where I wanted to be a lot quicker than normal. The Italians and other teams have done something similar in the past, but it has usually involved a media blackout. To be fair, we never refused to co-operate with our newspaper, television and radio people. Most of us did our press conference stunts every day, which pleased me. We discussed the situation and I made it clear we still had responsibilities to the public, who wanted to know what we thought. I also pointed out that it was not necessarily the guilty newspapers the players would be punishing by refusing interviews.

We decided to take it a step at a time, but fortunately the mood of the whole nation turned round anyway with each successful game we played. Gazza, McManaman and Fowler were the exceptions because they had been blamed for the trouble. They were raging about it and refused to speak to anyone. But, on the whole, I think we handled it well.

Extracted from *The Best Game in the World* by Terry Venables, published by Century on September 5 at £15.99.

TOMORROW

A slow start to Euro 96 and Gascoigne's wonder goal



England players posed good-naturedly for photographs on the Great Wall at the start of their tour of China and Hong Kong. A shadow spread over the trip with stories of rowdy drinking bouts centred around Gascoigne, whose birthday it was, allegations strongly refuted by Venables

GROWING PAINS OF ENGLAND'S WAYWARD GENIUS



How Gascoigne survived in the glare of hostile publicity

Gazza did well to say, in effect: "I'm not being rude, I just want to be quiet. I've been hammered out of all that. I just don't want to get involved in all that again." I was happy because it helped him concentrate.

He has to deal with things that throw him. No one could take all

that he has to contend with. You just have to hope people can grow with it, as the Klinsmanns and the Linekers have.

But even they never had people following them around in case they slipped up. Lineker, a very popular character, will take care of things and do it right, so they'll leave him alone. But Gazza's let his guard drop a couple of times, so they keep following him to see if he'll do it again.

What people don't understand about Paul is that he is completely different from his public image. Everyone thinks he's a big shot who couldn't care less if you told him off. But he is not like that. He hates to let you down.

GOLF: AMERICAN PRODUCES SOLID FINAL ROUND TO WIN WOMEN'S OPEN BY SEVEN SHOTS

Cool Klein keeps clear of the pack

By Patricia Davies

THERE was not the slightest sign of decline as Emilee Klein parred her way inexorably towards the Weetabix Women's British Open Championship at Woburn yesterday.

The diminutive Californian golfer was steadiness personified as would-be challengers toiled and sweated in the sunshine, but failed to get within four shots of the woman who had started the day six shots ahead and ended it seven clear of her fellow Americans. Penny Hammel and Amy Alcott, Jane Geddes, another American, and the English duo of Lisa Hackney and Alison Nicholas, shared fourth place a further shot behind.

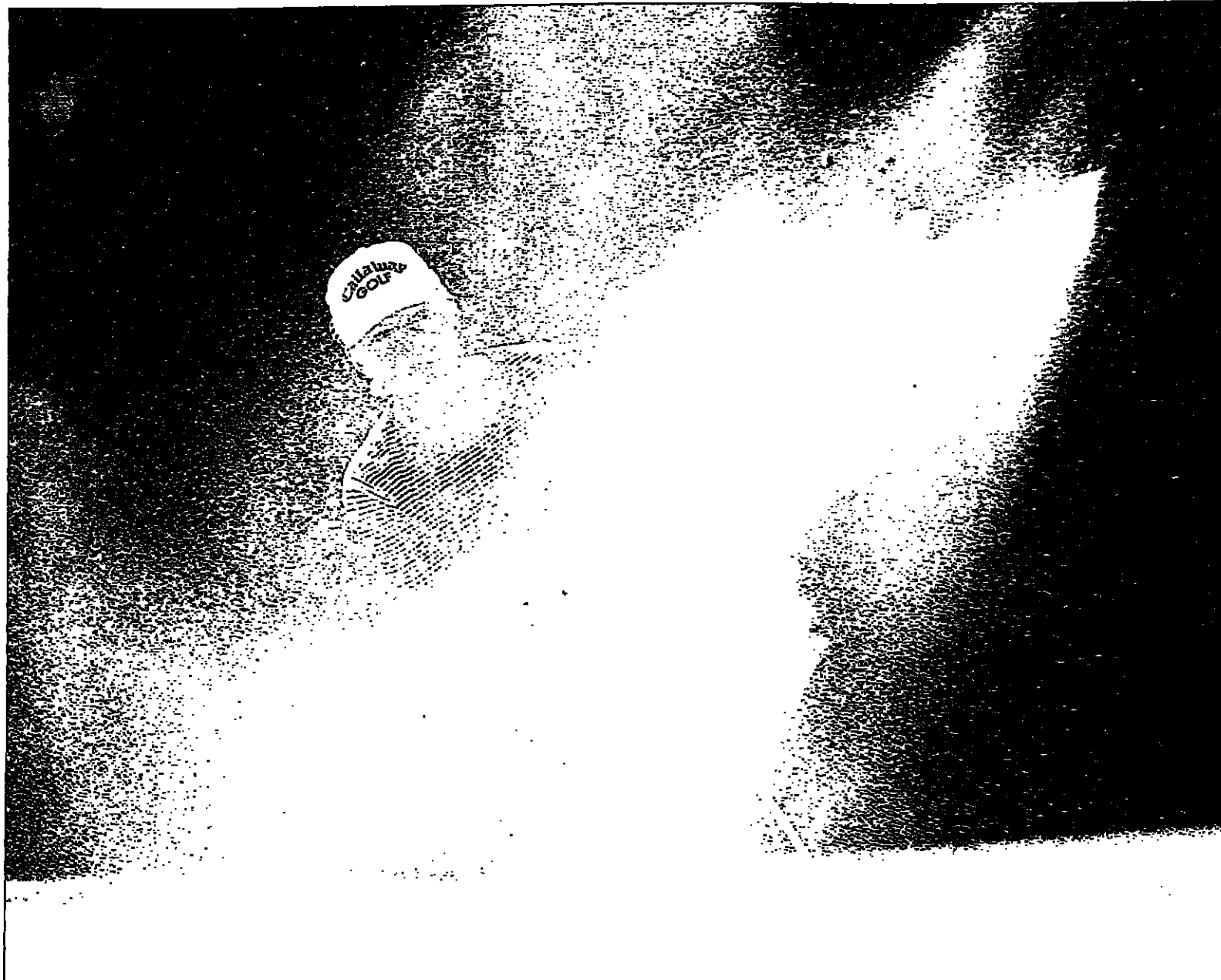
Klein's final round of 72, one under par, contained one bogey five — at the 3rd, where she three-putted — and two birdie fours, at the 4th and 10th, but it was her 15 pars that broke the opposition. Her total of 277 was 15 under par, and the first prize of £80,000 will allow her to add a few pairs of shoes to a collection that is verging on the Imelda Marcos class.

Klein, who won three points out of four when she played in the Curtis Cup match two years ago, is now very much in contention for a place on the United States team for the Solheim Cup, having won the Ping Welch's championship in Massachusetts last week. That was her maiden victory as a professional and her parents, Bobby and Randee, missed it because they were sightseeing in London. However, they did not miss many shots at Woburn — and neither did their daughter.

"I didn't make many mistakes, and when I did make one, I recovered immediately," Klein, 22, whose boyfriend, Kenny Harris, is her caddy, said. "There was never a moment of real worry, but you just don't know how the others are going to play. I feel so excited."

Hammel made it to 11 under par after 13 holes, with her fourth birdie in five holes, but her charge petered out as she dropped a shot at the 14th and double-bogeyed the 17th. Alcott, the veteran, was never really a factor, but, ever the show-woman, had a birdie four at the last.

Woburn has a habit of swallowing the pursuing pack. Last year, Karrie Webb won by six shots; in 1994, Liselotte Neumann, five strokes in front after 54 holes, was still three ahead after 72; in 1993, Karen Lunn won by eight shots; and in 1994, Ayako



Klein blasts out of a bunker on the 6th at Woburn yesterday, one of the shots that helped her to an emphatic triumph over the Duke's Course

Okamoto won by 11 shots. Those behind inevitably feel the need to force the pace, but there is not room to be expansive at Woburn, and self-destruction is usually the result.

"I feel claustrophobic," Nicholas, who moved to tie under par with four birdies in the first ten holes, said. She was still five behind, though, because Klein, out in 35, level par, also had a birdie four at the long 10th. "I was struggling with my swing in the last two rounds and I couldn't feel what I was doing. It's a great lay-out but it would be nice to have some wide open spaces now and again. It felt like an alleyway."

Laura Davies, another who feels confined at Woburn, will have until 1999 before she

renews what has become her unequal Open struggle with the Duke's Course. The world No 1 had six birdies in a closing 70, for a total of 288 and a share of nineteenth place, but did not even enjoy

the fact that the tee had been moved up 37 yards on the 18th. "I stand on the 18th tee and I'm thinking: 'Will this be out of bounds on the left or in the trees on the right?'" Davies said. "I hit a one-iron and

finished in perfect style for Woburn — under a tree. Fitting, that."

At least Davies still managed a par five yesterday. On Saturday, having been five under par after 11 holes, she took seven at the last. "That's as miserable as I've ever been coming off a golf course," she said. "I tried on every shot but I must have missed 30 putts inside ten feet this week. It's not the course, it's me. This place is fabulous, it has such an atmosphere and in a way it's a shame to be leaving. It's been a dream of mine to walk up the 18th here as Open champion."

Instead, that honour fell to Klein, and this morning, before she flies to the United States for three consecutive tournaments, Davies can turn

her attention from trees to the skins match at Five Lakes Hotel Golf and Country Club in Essex. She will be competing against Trish Johnson, Nicholas and Wendy Dicks — for rather less than the world record \$340,000 (about £225,000) she won in a skins game in Texas in May — and will make her next home appearance in defence of the Wilkinson Sword English Open, at The Oxfordshire tree before the Solheim Cup.

The pessimists were quick to write off Europe's chances of regaining the trophy at St Pierre, given the American showing here, but the optimism recalled that the last time an American won at Woburn — Patty Sheehan in 1992 — Europe won the Solheim Cup in style at Dalmahoy.

ATHLETICS

Edwards calls time on the old stagers

David Powell on the urgent need to reform Britain's domestic programme

Tonight marks the final appearance of Linford Christie in a Great Britain vest. No more, after he competes at Gateshead in the Buga Challenge, will the lycra-clad warrior of speed and controversy be there to look after sprinting for his country.

It is questionable whether the occasion is deserving of a Great Britain vest, in Christie's case his 63rd, but it would be wrong to nitpick now. The British Athletic Federation (BAF) appears to have recognised, at long last, the futility of the annual match it promoted until this year between Britain and the United States, and, desperate to reverse declining attendances, it is attempting to clamber out of the trenches.

That said, only the BAF, which has suffered so many self-inflicted wounds this season, could class this as a *bona fide* international fixture, a match in which it selects not only its own team, but the opposition's as well.

An International Select squad, which Britain faces this evening, has been put together by Ian Stewart, the BAF head of promotions.

However, if the team element is still meaningless, at least there are many attractive contests: Christie against

Donovan Bailey, Jonathan Edwards against Kenny Harrison, Steve Smith against Charles Austin, Colin Jackson against Allen Johnson, in each case the best Briton against the Olympic champion.

Such match-ups were conspicuously lacking at the embarrassing parade of British Olympic medal-winners at Crystal Palace last weekend. Only 6,000 spectators turned up within a month of a poorly-attended grand prix meeting there. "You had to feel sorry for Linford's farewell London meeting, for the athletics supporters who were there, for all the medalists, for athletics," Edwards said. "So very sad."

According to Edwards, the sooner that Christie, Sally Gunnell, Jackson and he are replaced by new luminaries, the better the sport in his country will be. "The public are bored with seeing Linford, Colin and Sally just turn up and I include myself in that. You need to get back to real competition."

While Edwards, Roger Black and Steve Backley, with their silver medals, gave Britain respectability in Atlanta, equally satisfying was the evidence that a new generation is coming through: Ian Mackie, Angela Thorp, Denise Lewis, Iwan Thomas. Add to these Ashia Hansen and Paula Radcliffe who sounded another positive note last week by setting British records.

Patrick Magyar, who assembled the fields for the world's biggest, wealthiest and most successful grand prix, in Zurich last Wednesday, one which is always a sell-out, supports the Ed-

wards theory. Furthermore, Magyar believes that Britain will rise again soon, both at performance level and in spectator support.

"When you have people as good as Gunnell, Christie and Jackson, their shadow is on everything. Now those stars are having difficulties, or are at the end of their careers, it will be a process of just a couple of years to get back to normal," Magyar said.

Britain must, according to Magyar, carry through its intention to reduce the number of meetings it promotes, or at least those at elite level. Switzerland has only two plus two with budgets of no more than £250,000 (about £156,000). These are designed to provide Swiss athletes with good international opposition but without the luminaries of the sport there to drain resources. There are six other meetings for athletics showing promise.

This is the type of variation Edwards favours: two "high profile" meetings, one each year in London, the other rotated between Gateshead and Sheffield, and three of a "satellite tour" standard to help Britons who are emerging.

The BAF's biggest faux pas of the season was its failure to accommodate Michael Johnson in the London grand prix. Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, has said that the federation was "well past the date" when it needed to look at reducing its number of meetings. Had it done so sooner and had the budget not been spread so thinly, it might not now be facing the future without live television coverage.

The present two-year contract expires this year and ITV senior executives, recognising falling interest, are understood to favour a new deal involving recorded highlights only, which would inevitably lead to reduced sponsorship.

"There are a lot of obstacles to cross and traditions to step over and it is going to be hard because it is obvious that, within the federation, all is not well," Edwards said. "Linford has many qualities but you have to say, with respect to being team captain, he did not play the team game, and set the example he should have. His relationship with the British media hindered his position as team captain."

"He would argue it is about motivating team members but it is bigger than that. It is about good public relations and Linford has probably ignored that, not only at his own cost but also at the cost of the sport."

Christie was at it again last week, losing his temper in Zurich with two British athletics writers who had not portrayed him favourably. Let us hope that today he is remembered more for putting bums on seats than moves out of joint.

TENNIS

Dickson despondent after wasting chance

By Alix Ramsay

THE British national junior tennis championships got off to an understated start at Nottingham yesterday, with the top talent thin on the ground and some of what there was failing to get past the first round.

The best young players in the country are noticeable only by their absence with Martin Lee, the world No 1, Ben Haren and Simon Pender all earning their corn on the satellite circuit. James Trotman is also missing, still recovering from a wrist injury.

In the girls' events, Abigail Tordoff and Jasmine Choudhury, ranked 53rd and 88th in the world respectively, have decided to try their luck in international junior events in the United States. Amanda Janes has also opted to stay away because she is still growing.

That left the way clear for some new names to claim the limelight, but just when the

chance was presented to him on a plate, Simon Dickson failed to take it. Dickson is one of the full-time pupils at the Rover school of excellence at Bisham Abbey, having given up football and his chance of signing schoolboy forms with Manchester United in favour of tennis. Last year he was a force to be reckoned with at under-14 level, but now aged 15 and playing in the bigger pond of the under-18s, he is finding life a little tougher.

Seeded four, Dickson was beaten in the first round by Peter Brightman from Stevenage 6-7, 7-5, 6-3. He was less than impressed. "I played pretty awful tennis today," he said, "but I haven't been playing well recently and I have lost confidence."

The only other seed to fall was the No 12, Daniel Kiernan, from Ekecher. He had no answer to the power of James Auckland, from Norfolk, and lost 6-4, 6-1.

Hjorth suffers for lack of experience in final stages

JOHN HOPKINS



At Woburn

For Emilee Klein, the inhabitants of the safari park remained friendly. There were lionesses on the prowl at Woburn, their eyes fixed predatorily on her six-stroke lead in the Weetabix Women's British Open, but none proved the least bit menacing. Maria Hjorth, the promising Swede, who was closest to Klein at the start of the day, was no challenge at all. Her surname means deer in Swedish, but any speed she showed on this hot, sultry afternoon was more backwards than forwards.

All that Klein and Hjorth had in common the moment they arrived on the 1st tee before a disappointingly small crowd were peaked caps that bore the name of a club manufacturer on the front and had a gap at the back out through which their hair overflowed. That, and the fact that they both wore shorts.

Klein, a professional for

nearly two years, looked as though she had stepped from the pages of one of those American mail-order catalogues. Thick lipstick matched her neatly painted fingernails and the bow in her hair was of the same material,

colour and pattern of her T-shirt. Hjorth, the older by one year but only a professional since May, wore what looked more like tennis shorts and had a watch looped in to her belt.

Even their swings were radically different. Klein's begins with an inordinately stiff and slow take-away that is so mechanical it looks as though it has been fashioned in an indoor net. She generates length by using a driver with a long shaft that looks as though it could spin her off her feet if she swung it too quickly. Her swing has none of the graceful rhythm of Hjorth's — but none of the inherent waywardness in a swing that is long and perhaps too willowy either.

"She is very promising with a good swing and a good attitude," Mickey Walker, captain of the Europe team in the forthcoming Solheim Cup, said of Hjorth. "She had an

outstanding record. What you might not know about her," Walker added helpfully, "is that she is a diabetic. She discovered it about one year ago."

For Hjorth to rattle the foundations of Klein's lead, she needed to lead lively from the start and a birdie at the 1st, where Klein had a par, seemed promising. Most of what was to go wrong for Hjorth later on was self-inflicted, but it was unfortunate for her that her tee-shot at the picturesque 2nd hole should hit the flag and then rebound into a position from where she took three more. As Klein had started with two pars, her lead was now back to six strokes.

Hjorth, trailing by six strokes on the 5th tee, walked off the 6th green trailing by four. She birdied these two holes with a good putt on the short 5th and comfortably reaching the 6th in two. That



Hjorth: potential

was as close as she was to get, though it was hard to be sure what anyone else was doing because there were so few leaderboards.

It was now that Hjorth's inexperience began to show. This is only her fifth tourna-

ment as a professional and she did not know how to cope with being in the position she was in. As a result, she was unable to threaten Klein and unable to stop her own game unravelling like a ball of wool as the long afternoon wore on.

And it did wear on. They took three hours to play 14 holes, which is far too slow, and, starting at the 12th, Hjorth dropped four shots in three holes. She hung her head. She looked slightly embarrassed and out of her depth and the spectators could scarce forbear to cheer.

Hjorth had begun the afternoon as a late contender for the Solheim Cup team. She will make sure she has completed in the requisite number of events by playing in Sweden this week. After a round of 78, five over par, she ended it looking as though she wanted to be anywhere but alongside Klein. Her day has yet to come.

Parnevik misses play-off

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

IT IS hardly surprising that Jesper Parnevik is known as the clown prince of Swedish golf after another error ruled him out of the final round of the Sprint International at Castle Pines, Denver, yesterday.

Parnevik was eliminated when he failed to appear for a four-way play-off for the last place among the 24 qualifiers in the modified Stableford tournament after again failing to give careful consideration to the scoreboard.

He was back in his motel as

Steve Lowery, John Inman and Wayne Westner contested a sudden death shoot-out, which went ahead without him, after the quartet had tied on 15 points. Parnevik made an even more costly mistake when he refused to look at the scoreboard during the 1994 Open Championship at Turnberry, and did not realise he needed only a par at the last hole to get into a play-off at the very least.

The Swede, 31, rashly went for the pin, which was tucked away at the front of the green, and now I'll be aggressive and give it a run."

Raymond Floyd birdied the first three holes on the way to a third round of 67, five under par, for a one-stroke lead over Jim Colbert and Jay Sigel in the Northville Long Island Classic in Jericho, New York.

Floyd, attempting to regain the title he won in 1993, started Saturday in a three-way tie for the lead but made putts of 13, 18 and 14 feet to establish an advantage.

showing up. Jesper had a brain freeze again, which is not surprising."

While Parnevik made an early departure, Nick Faldo moved within striking distance of adding this title to his US Masters triumph in April. He had five birdies in a third round of 69 for eight points. That gave him a total of 18, which left him six behind Brad Faxon, of the United States.

"I played well and had a lot of chances," Faldo said. "I was just pleased to make the last day and now I'll be aggressive and give it a run."

On home ground, Stephen Purses took the Reebok PGA Assistants' Championship title in a play-off finale at Moor Allerton, Leeds. Purses, of

Lomas snatches Czech title

By Our Sports Staff

JONATHAN LOMAS returned a final-round 66 — including a 130-yard wedge shot which finished 12 inches from the pin at the last — to win the Chemapol Czech Open with an aggregate 272:12 under par, at Mariánské Lázně yesterday.

The 28-year-old Norwich golfer beat Daniel Chopra, of Sweden, by one stroke, to win the £125,000 first prize — the biggest cheque of his career — and seal his first PGA European Tour event. In so doing he also clinched a place in the England Dunhill Cup team.

Lomas started the day in fourth spot, behind Chopra and Gary Orr, of Scotland, the joint leaders, and Peter Mitchell, of London. Orr and Mitchell fell away, however, returning a final-round 74 and 72 respectively. Lomas's biggest surprise, however, was snatching the third and final place in the England team, behind Nick Faldo and Lee Westwood — who had already qualified — as he moved from

91st to 16th in the Volvo rankings. "I wasn't even thinking about playing in the Dunhill Cup," Lomas said, "but it's a real bonus. I've already won enough today to buy a sports car — I'm not sure which one I want but it's nice to know I can afford one."

Raymond Russell, who finished fourth on 27n, and Phillip Price, joint 30th on 282, also had cause to celebrate.

Scores 34

Russell clinched the third spot, behind Colin Montgomerie and Andrew Coltart, in the Scotland Dunhill Cup team and Price won a place in the Welsh line-up, behind Ian Woosnam and Mark Mouland.

On home ground, Stephen Purses took the Reebok PGA Assistants' Championship title in a play-off finale at Moor Allerton, Leeds. Purses, of

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John Hjorth

England turn to Croft for Test balance

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRUE to character, Raymond Illingworth's final home Test team as chairman of selectors is among his most controversial. Needing to beat Pakistan to level the series, England have dispensed with Jack Russell and will reimpose the wicketkeeping gloves on a reluctant Alec Stewart at the Oval on Thursday.

After the single-minded attack of four seam bowlers that failed to deliver at Headingley, Illingworth and his panel have also changed course dramatically and included two spin bowlers in a party of 12. Ian Salisbury is one, and he will definitely play, but there is also a potential Test debut for Robert Croft, of Glamorgan.

Not the least contentious of the decisions taken in Manchester on Saturday evening, however, was the retention of Chris Lewis. It is now beyond belief that the selectors persist with the flawed theory that Lewis, who has wasted so many chances, is more likely

to win them a critical game than Darren Gough, yet this is what must be concluded from a selection that also, conspicuously and predictably, has no room for the heroes of past Oval victories, Devon Malcolm and Philip Tufnell.

It is a virtue of the selection panel that there are no cliques and no block votes, just five men of strong and individual opinion. As they did not enter the meeting in the united belief that Russell should be discarded, some hard talking



Croft: called up

was evidently necessary. "It was a unanimous decision," Illingworth said, "in the end. It was discussed for a long time and everything else went back to the wicketkeeping situation. It's hard on Jack but the fact is we have no all-rounder. Giving Alec the gloves is the only way we can achieve the right balance." Illingworth also revealed that Russell was telephoned yesterday with the reassurance that he has a guaranteed place on the winter tour to Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

Stewart does not exactly emerge as a winner from this piece of dubious expediency. At Headingley, he batted in a style that he has not shown at this level for more than a year, making 170 in the opening role he favours. As the wicket-keeping is now his priority, in the sense that he must do it but he need not open the innings, his batting is being undermined again at the very moment when it should be protected and promoted.

If England bat first, Stewart will still go in first with Michael Atherton; if they bat

OVAL SQUAD

M A Atherton (Lancashire, captain, Age 28, Tests 61), A J Stewart (Surrey, 28, 57), N Hussain (Essex, 28, 11), G P Thorpe (Surrey, 27, 31), J P Crawley (Lancashire, 24, 11), N V Knight (Worcestershire, 26, 5), D G Cook (Derbyshire, 28, 15), C G Lewis (Surrey, 28, 31), I D K Salisbury (Sussex, 26, 8), A R Caddick (Somerset, 27, 9), A D Murray (Lancashire, 27, 5), R D B Croft (Glamorgan, 26, 0).

second, the job is likely to pass to Nick Knight. As we are constantly being told how much of cricket is in the head, and how success can be dictated by mental preparation, it is anything but ideal for two batsmen to be unsure of their role until the toss has been made.

Illingworth is correct in saying that the decision can be justified on the state of the series and the balance of the team. He is also right to point out that Knight's presence, as a third specialist opener, makes it more workable. But no one can pretend that it is a satisfactory solution to make Russell the scapegoat, and Stewart the dogbody, on the

annual occasions when England are chasing a series.

If Croft is the beneficiary of the policy, then England will at least be fielding an attack of traditional balance for the first time this summer. There is much to be said for this, especially as Salisbury operates more effectively as one of two spinners, but the England of recent years have tended to draw back from the brink when such possibilities are before them.

Croft, 26, has been playing county cricket for seven years and made two England A tours, the last of them three winters ago. For a spinning all-rounder of such long-standing promise, there remains a sense of unfulfilment about his career, and a close study of his figures is not especially flattering. Until this season, he had been taking his first-class wickets at an average of 40.

This is partly explained by the regular need for him to act as a defensive, stock bowler within the limited Glamorgan attack. It can also be balanced by the fact that he has taken 62

wickets this season, the most by any slow bowler qualified for England. As a proud Welshman, who even teaches the language to the less fluent in his dressing-room, he would want this distinction made.

Illingworth described Croft as "an old-fashioned off spinner" — much like himself, presumably — and complimented his action and his record of bowling more overs than most. "People say we play too much cricket but I



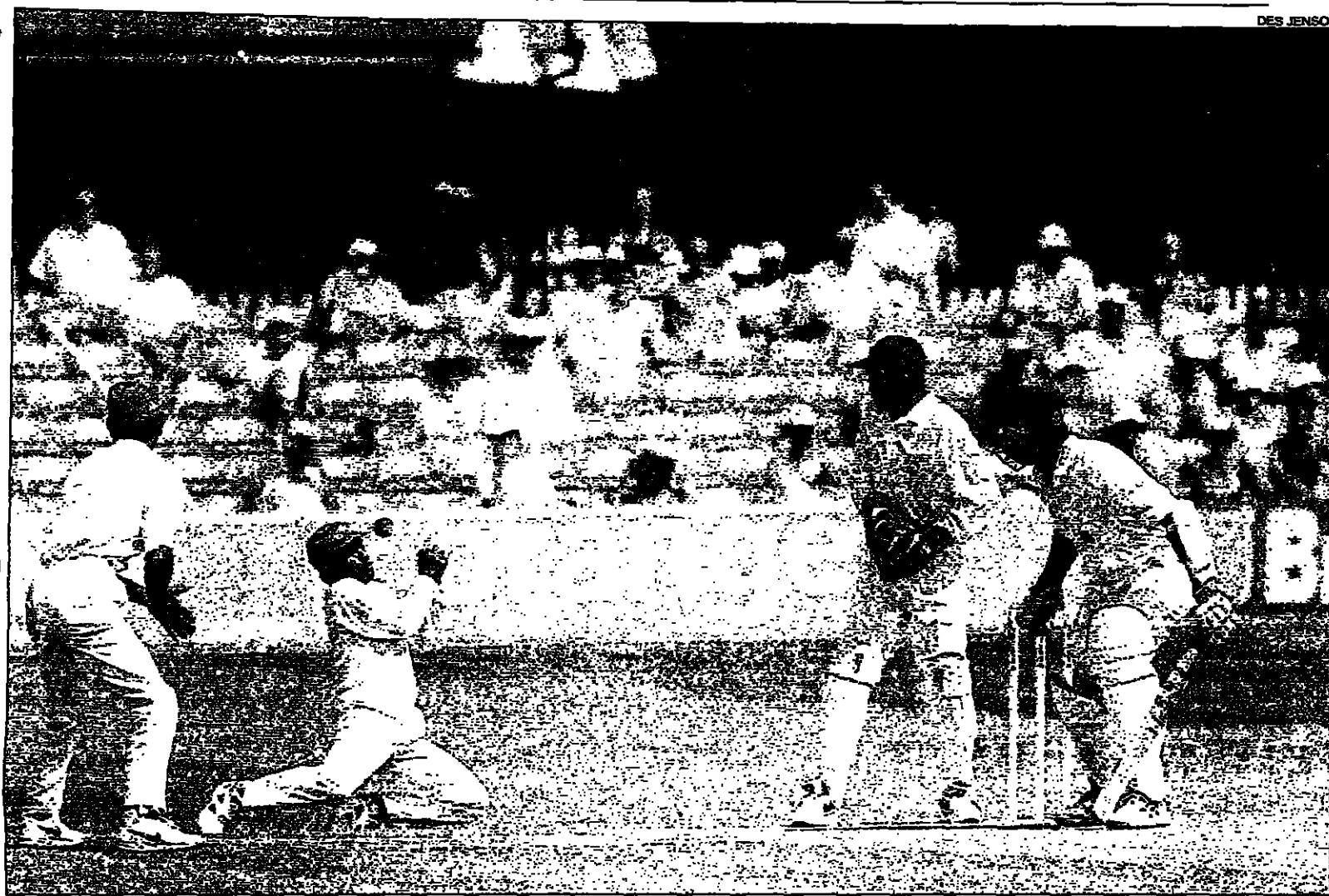
Russell: sacrificed

don't think the bowlers get enough overs in," he said. "Croft has been on the fringe all summer and now he has got his just rewards."

Croft is now the obvious choice to travel overseas as England's second spinner, whether or not he plays on Thursday. He offers the bonus of being able to bat as high as No 7 and the runs he made against Warwickshire on Saturday will not have harmed his cause. As with his bowling, though, the suspicion persists that he ought to make more runs than he does.

Lewis will almost certainly be the seam bowler omitted if Croft plays, but he is unarguably fortunate to remain in the reckoning after his erratic efforts at Headingley. After what Illingworth described as "a very long discussion", Gough continues to miss out, apparently because he has not bowled impressively when selectors have been watching, but this is to ignore his great gift of swinging the ball late, and at will. It is an omission that England may regret on the arid expanse of the Oval.

CRICKET: BATSMEN AND BOWLERS PLAY THEMSELVES INTO FORM FOR FINAL TEST



Irani, the Essex batsmen, watches nervously as the Pakistanis fail to hold this chance off the bowling of Saqlain at Chelmsford yesterday

Pakistanis bolster their confidence

BY PAT GIBSON

CHELMSFORD (second day of three): The Pakistanis, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 389 runs ahead of Essex.

WASIM AKRAM, the captain, is keeping his powder dry, but the other big guns are blazing as the Pakistanis move confidently, arrogantly even, towards the final Test at the Oval. For all the frailty of the Essex resistance, they are in ominous form.

There were centuries on Saturday for Inzamam-ul-Haq, whose knee injury seems to be little more than a nuisance to him from having to field, and Asif Mujtaba, followed by a three-wicket blast from Waqar Younis. Yesterday, Waqar picked up two more wickets to finish with five for 42. Saeed Anwar scored his 42nd century of the tour and Salim Malik sealed his place in the Test side with 104 not out against his old county.

It does seem that the counties are playing into the opposition's hands with mismatches like this. Having thrashed an under-strength Leicestershire in their last match, the Pakistanis are now lordling it over an even weaker Essex and runs, wickets and especially victories can do wonderful things for morale.

Essex, who were already without their overseas player, Law, who is now back in Australia, as well as Cowan

and Rollins, who were playing for England 'A', chose to rest Gooch, Hussain and Grayson with a view to more important battles ahead. The bowling was still respectable enough to contain the Pakistanis to 303 for nine declared in their first innings, but the early batting was at Waqar's mercy.

He had already reduced them to 29 for three overnight, with Hibbert, 21, and Peters, just 17, among his victims, so it said something for the spirit of

Robinson, 23, and Hyam, 20, the reserve wicketkeeper, that they resisted his opening burst in a fourth-wicket stand of 93, which did most to save Essex from having to follow on. Robinson made 57 before falling to Mohammad Akram; Hyam was teased into a bar-pat catch by Saqlain Mushtaq.

Aamir Sohail, the vice-captain, could probably have done with a bigger score, since

he has still not made fifty in 11 first-class matches on tour, but he seemed happy to settle for proving that he has recovered from the hand injury that kept him out at Headingley. He had made 40 when he was

stumped off Childs. Saeed Anwar was not so generous to an Essex attack being treated with utter contempt. A six of Childs into the gardens beyond long-off took him to his 50 and there was another six to go with his 13 fours on his way to a century in two hours off only 90 balls.

He was out soon afterwards, driving flamboyantly at Irani and edging to slip, but that merely left the stage for Salim Malik to confirm that his vast experience would be preferable to the youthful promise of Shadab Kabir at the Oval. Salim enjoyed his two profitable seasons with Essex in 1991 and 1993 and he looked much more like his old self as he cruised to his first hundred of the tour off 108 balls with 15 fours.

Pakistan boys too strong despite collapse

BY JOHN CASSY

PAKISTAN, the favourites, comfortably beat England at Headingley in the second semi-final of the Lombard Under-15 World Cup on Saturday to set up the enticing prospect of a final match against a talented India side.

In a match of high quality, Pakistan were worth their win but the margin of their victory — 90 runs and ten overs to spare — should not detract from England's performance. Indeed, in a remarkable five-over spell they showed they were more than capable opponents by taking the last six Pakistan wickets for 17 runs.

Having won the toss and elected to bat on a difficult pitch, Pakistan looked to be in firm control at 191 for four but England never let their heads drop and some fine fielding and controlled bowling precipitated a Pakistani collapse to 208 all out.

The wicket of Taufeeq Umar, who made a fortunate 87 after being dropped three times, was quickly followed by two excellent run-outs, the first a direct hit from Graeme Bridge at mid-off. The second the result of an excellent pick-up and throw from the boundary by John Francis, would have pleased a full international, let alone a 15-year-old schoolboy.

Any hopes England had of building on their good work in the field were quickly dispelled after they lost the tournament's leading run-scorers, Adams, the opener, and Francis, a left-hander, cheaply, reducing them to 35 for three. Only the captain, Alex Loudon, of Eton, offered any real resistance by hitting a gritty 44 but he, like the rest of his colleagues, found it difficult to pierce the inner circle of Pakistani fielders.

Pakistan will approach the final at Lord's tomorrow with understandable confidence. Though their batting looked brittle under pressure on Saturday, they bowled well and in Kahafiz Mahmood and Shehzad Nazir they have an opening pair who bowl as quickly and with as much movement as any in the tournament.

More worryingly for India, Abdul Qadir's much-vaunted son, Imran, got his leg spinners to turn hugely and at times had the English bats-

men transfixed. If anything, the ball turned away from the bat too much and prevented him from taking more than his final two for 47 off his 11 overs. Bowling in tandem with Shoaib Malik, the off spinner, who took two for 19; they posed the batsmen a host of problems and should trouble even the free-scoring Indians.

The standard of cricket seen so far in the tournament has surprised many and it has been easy to forget the young age of the boys. They, however, will not forget the experience. After the close of play, boys from the Canadian and the West Indian teams were playing an impromptu game with a tennis ball in the car park and, as a bonding experience, the planned group trip to sample the delights of the local fish and chip shop should not be underestimated.

A lot of friendships have been formed here and the players, coaches and manag-

Yorkshire recover 30
Hollis' claim 31

ers have had a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas and tactics. It really has been a festival of cricket and hopefully will act as a springboard for under-15 competition," Ken Lake, of the English Schools Cricket Association, said. "The discussions now are around whether to hold a tournament every two, three or four years. The England lads have done superbly and should be very proud of their achievements which effectively make them one of the top four teams in the world."

Sarkar Talwar, the India coach, said the tournament has been invaluable for his players who were looking to play on a bigger stage in the future. "We try to prepare our players mentally and physically to bear the toughness of the big game. The boys have responded wonderfully to the exposure of the tournament and to playing on such a famous ground — they are the luckiest players in the world to be playing at Lord's. It is all they can think about at the moment but they will not be afraid, they will play for victory." It should be a fascinating game.

BOWLS

Anderson defies odds to conquer the world

BY GORDON ALLAN

CARMEN ANDERSON, of Norfolk Island, in the Pacific, won the women's world singles championship at Leamington Spa yesterday, beating Wendy Line, of England, 25-9.

There is only one bowling club on Norfolk Island with about 100 players. Anderson, who was born in the Philippines, has won the Pacific Games singles title three times, was sixth in the world championship in 1992, and two years ago won the bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games.

She is an entertainer on the green but needed no theatricals to beat Line, who failed to find either length or direction. Anderson was 13-0 up before Line scored. It was all over in 16 ends, with Anderson, oozing confidence, picking up five counts of three. She pushed out Line's

shot bowl on the last end to secure the gold medal. Joyce Lindores, of Scotland, won the bronze, defeating Rita Jones, of Wales, 25-4.

Line qualified for the final by a fraction of a shot from Lindores. Both finished the round robin section equal on points, with almost identical records, and under the championship rules the matter was decided by dividing the aggregate of shots scored for each player by the aggregate of shots scored against.

Australia won the fours, coming back from 7-1 down to beat South Africa 18-15, and England, with a team of Norma Shaw, Jean Baker, Gill Fitzgerald and Mary Price, took the bronze medal with a 24-21 win over New Zealand. South Africa took home the overall team trophy.

EQUESTRIANISM: COURAGEOUS VETERAN RIDER ROLLS BACK THE YEARS WITH VICTORY AT HICKSTEAD

Crowds salute evergreen Pessoa

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

IN ONE of the most emotional scenes witnessed in Hickstead's famous arena, Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, four months from his 61st birthday, won his third Silk Cut Derby — nine months after suffering the heart attack that he thought had ended his career.

Victory came on the 19-year-old Loro Piana Vivaldi — the only horse in the 34-strong field to complete the 16-fence course on four faults. The win earned Pessoa £40,000, a far cry from his last success in 1965 when, riding Gran Geste, he won £300.

"It was a privilege to ride that horse today," Pessoa said as he deferred praise to the Irish-bred Vivaldi, who has now had ten Derby successes in Europe. "He was so careful and relaxed — everything you could wish for." For the 18,000 spectators who watched the absorbing contest it was Pessoa, as much as his Irish-bred

horse, who they rose to salute. "It's unbelievable — there'll never be another like him," one tearful supporter said, as he rushed off to congratulate him.

Based in Europe since 1961, Pessoa — a veteran of 50 Nations Cups and twice a runner-up in the Volvo World Cup — has had the most turbulent 12 months of his long career. On November 3 he had a heart attack. "I took the doctor's advice and spent a long time getting myself fit again afterwards," he said.

Eight months later, in Atlanta, he enjoyed one of the happiest moments of his career when he watched his 25-year-old son, Rodrigo, help the Brazil team to win the Olympic equestrian medal. It was after the Games that Pessoa decided he would compete at Hickstead. "If my heart could pass that test then it was good for another ten years," Pessoa, who trained the Olym-

pic team, said. It was well tested yesterday.

After his round, when his only mistake came at the first part of the Dyke, he looked quickly at the device on his wrist to check his heart rate as he crossed the finish. He then had a stressful wait to see whether any of the 14 riders who followed him into the

Photograph 34

arena could match his round. The course, which has produced only 38 clear rounds in its 35-year history, proved as tough as ever. There were numerous falls, including a spectacular one at the bank by Andrew Saywell, on Almara, and a terrifying one at the water by Commandant Gerry Mullins, of Ireland, on the inexperienced Kiltone Abbey. Captain John Ledingham, the main threat to Pessoa, saw his chance of a third

successive win disappear when Kibaha hit the Derby Rails and the oxer at fence 14. Michael Whitaker, a four-times winner of the event, joined the six riders on eight faults on his brother John's horse, Gannon, who faulted at the first water ditch and the Derby Rails. He retired on his second ride. Touchdown, who took one look at the 10th 6m drop off the Derby Bank and refused.

Nick Skelton, a three-times winner, also finished on eight faults on Cathleen, who hit the rails at the foot of the Bank and the second part of the infamous Devil's Dyke. When Michel Robert, of France, the world silver medal-winner and the last rider to go, incurred eight faults at the Dyke, on Airborne Montecillo, the waiting was over. Pessoa covered his face with his hands as if unable to believe that, 31 years after his last success, he had again won Europe's toughest event.

King gives a pedigree performance

A BUOYANT Mary King, riding Star Appeal, landed the Scottish Open championships, sponsored by Pedigree Chum, at Thriestane Castle, Lauder, yesterday. Third after the dressage and cross-country, she won by virtue of a clear showjumping round (Davian Cannon writes). King now heads for Burghley, an event she won last year on King William.

Bruce Davidson, of the United States, winner of an Olympic team silver medal, took second with his Eagle Lion, a former Badminton winner; the overnight dressage leader, Daisy Dick and Headley Bravo, came third. Captain David Foster, of Ireland, and his Atlanta ride, 'Til' n' Turn, led the testing cross-country phase, with Terry Boon and Vital Decision, but both had costly errors in the showjumping.

CRICKET: WORCESTERSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE STEP UP CHALLENGE FOR HONOURS IN TIGHTLY CONTESTED AXA & EQUITY LEAGUE

Leatherdale rises to challenge as Middlesex falter

LORD'S (Middlesex won toss): Worcestershire (wps) beat Middlesex by two runs

DAVID LEATHERDALE is one of those county cricketers who was identified at an early age as possessing a special talent and spent most of the rest of his career frustratingly failing to live up to it. But he played a starring role in a thrilling victory yesterday that keeps Worcestershire's hopes of a fourth Sunday league title very much alive.

On a pitch so chokingly slow it could have beaten the Boston Strangler in an asphyxiation contest, Leatherdale, 28, scored 50, the highest innings of the game, and took four wickets for 31, career-best figures, to stifle and then snuff out Middlesex's faltering attempts to chase 174 to win.

Leatherdale's first five-over spell conceded only ten runs and produced the wicket of Carr, playing in his last Axia Equity & Law League game at Lord's, but it was when Moody recalled him at the death that he made his most telling contribution.

Some brave hitting, borne of desperation, by Fraser and Johnson, who came together at 146 for eight with 28 needed from 17 balls, had carried Middlesex to within six of their target when Leatherdale began the final over. Four runs were scored from the first three balls before Fraser drove the next ball into the hands of Ellis at deep mid-on and, with the delivery after that, Leatherdale bowled Johnson, who had scored 29 from 18 balls, to secure victory by two runs.

Leatherdale had earlier struck only his third half-century in 76 Sunday league innings, in which he averages

BY SIMON WILDE

well under 20. But his 50 occupied only 20 balls, which in these conditions was match-winning batting.

The result all but kills off Middlesex's hopes of winning the Axia Equity & Law League but lifts Worcestershire, within two points of the leaders. With matches to come against Warwickshire and Surrey, they have yet to meet two of their principal rivals.

TABLE	P	W	L	D	NR	Pts
Surrey (9)	13	4	4	0	0	36
Nottingham (11)	13	9	4	0	0	36
Yorkshire (12)	13	9	4	0	0	36
Warwickshire (12)	13	8	4	0	0	34
Worcestershire (12)	13	7	3	0	0	34
Northants (13)	13	8	4	0	0	34
Kent (11)	13	7	4	0	0	30
Middlesex (17)	14	7	8	0	0	30
Somerset (14)	13	7	5	0	0	30
Leicestershire (14)	13	6	5	0	0	28
Gloucestershire (14)	13	6	5	0	0	28
Derbyshire (14)	13	6	5	0	0	28
Essex (15)	13	6	5	0	0	24
Gloucestershire (15)	13	4	7	0	0	20
Gloucestershire (16)	13	3	8	0	0	18
Essex (16)	13	3	8	0	0	18
Derbyshire (16)	13	1	12	0	0	6

(Last season's positions in brackets)

A key factor in the outcome was that Middlesex bowled their overs so slowly that they were permitted to face 39 overs, rather than 40, themselves. Had they had an extra over, they would surely have won the match, although Worcestershire did their best to make amends by bowling a clutch of wides and no-balls early in the Middlesex innings.

Although there was a tense finale, it was, in many ways, an unsatisfactory day's cricket. One-day cricket is essentially about entertainment, as is watching the game on a television screen, but, in a crowd of 4,000 was treated to the sight of batsmen being

largely frustrated from start to finish.

Despite a short boundary on the Tavern side, strokes worth four runs were almost out of the question, let alone ones worth six. The Worcestershire fielders, in particular, defended this short boundary brilliantly. Spiring parolling the ropes tirelessly.

They also pulled off some fine catches — notably Lampitt's dismissal of Brown — and there were three Middlesex run outs, the first of which accounted for Ramprakash, who had looked more comfortable than most at the crease.

Worcestershire, asked to bat first, were obliged to find their way gingerly and the progress of Moody and Spiring, after the early losses of Weston and Hick, was revealing.

They spent 17 overs garnering 52 runs, Spiring spending 54 balls scoring 16 and Moody 64 over his 40. Of the 56 runs made between them, 46 came in singles and ten of them in twos, all of the latter to Moody. Although the rate of scoring picked up significantly in the second half of the innings, only five boundaries were struck in all, four by Leatherdale and one by Rhodes, who hit a vital 27 from 19 balls at the end.

Hick's dismissal was typical of a man whose form, and luck, have deserted him. He had faced three balls when he responded to Moody's call for a quick single only to see Fay, the bowler, moving across to field the ball himself on the on-side. His shy at the further end of stumps scored a direct hit.

It completed an unhappy four days — and, indeed, an unhappy season — for Hick on the greatest stage in English cricket. In seven innings there, his highest score is a paltry seven.



Robert Croft, newly called up by England, is bowled by Shaun Pollock during Glamorgan's AXA & Equity League defeat by Warwickshire at Edgbaston

Hartley streaks to Sunday best innings

BY HIMSELF

BRISTOL (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (wps) beat Gloucestershire by 133 runs

FOR Yorkshire, it will be small consolation for defeat in the semi-finals of the NatWest Trophy and the loss of direction in the county championship, but at least they are still in with a shout when it comes to the AXA Equity & Law Sunday League. Yesterday, they displayed rare all-round skills in trouncing Gloucestershire by dint of batting, bowling and fielding in a different class to that of their opponents.

It was in fact, a bowler, Peter Hartley, whose batting ensured that Gloucestershire were confronted by the formidable total of 262 for seven. He smote the ball to all parts of the ground after the essential foundations had been laid by Martyn Moxson, Michael Vaughan and David Byas. It was an all-rounder, Craig White, who produced a devastating opening burst of three for 23 in six overs, and ran out Matthew Windward with a kick on to the stumps. This reduced Gloucestershire to a desperate 53 for four.

Finally, it was a specialist bowler, Richard Stemp, who removed Hancock, a dangerous-looking Lynch, Russell and Walsh in six overs for a career best four for 25, which wrapped up victory for Yorkshire with nearly 11 overs to spare. This left Gloucestershire with even less to show for their efforts than the male counterpart, who ran over and round the playing area while nobody took a blind bit of notice.

In reaching 262 for seven, their highest Sunday score of the season and highest in the competition against Gloucestershire, Byas, the Yorkshire captain, resorted to some astute juggling of the batting order. To set the tone, he went

in himself with Moxson and, lead from the front, he certainly did.

Against comparatively undemanding bowling — Walsh kept himself back until the game was ten overs old — these two put on 50 inside the first eight overs. Byas was a commanding figure, driving straight and often, moving to his 56 from 50 balls with six boundaries off the middle of the bat. Nemesis was at hand, however, in the guise of Walsh. Byas fell to him for the third time in as many innings, but by then the first-wicket pair had reached 94 and Yorkshire were on course.

It was then that Yorkshire stuttered. Mark Alleyne bowled more economically than anyone and accounted for Moxson. When Symonds bowled White, Yorkshire had lost three wickets in adding 30 runs and the innings was still in the balance. White's was one promotion that did not come off, and while Vaughan, stroked the ball around pleasantly, the elevation of Gough to come in at the fall of the third wicket was also unsuccessful. But help was at hand.

Hartley, who came in at the fall of the fourth wicket, lost Vaughan, leg-before to a straight one from Lewis, but this did not deter him from indulging his penchant for hitting sixes at Bristol. A brace in the county match just gone was followed by four more from scoring straight drives as he added 48 in five overs with Blakely. He moved to a career Sunday best 52 from 29 balls, hit a four to accompany his sixes and left Gloucestershire with far too much to do.

They never really gave Yorkshire much cause for concern. Only Lynch batted long enough to look menacing and when Stemp had him well caught by Moxson at point, Gloucestershire were 89 for five and victory a formality.



Knight unbeaten half-century

BY IVO TENNANT

WARWICKSHIRE, the AXA Equity & Law League runners-up last season and champions in 1994, are not a club in repose. Their victory over Glamorgan yesterday, achieved by the emphatic margin of seven wickets, took them to within two points of the leaders, Surrey, who did not have a match. Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire. Nick Knight, their England opener, made one of the most telling contributions, his unbeaten innings of 73 including seven fours.

Warwickshire may not receive the same publicity and plaudits as in years gone by, and Reeve, their combative captain, has gone to contemplate a career in the media — which retired player does not

— but they are still a considerable side. Knight was given support by Brown, who contributed 77 before he was leg-before to Croft. These two added 81, taking their time to reach their target with 13 balls to spare.

Croft, Knight's putative colleague at the Oval on Thursday, made 23 off 29 balls and then took one for 15 in eight overs, as tight a spell of bowling as an off spinner can expect to return in this form of the game. This was something for Glamorgan to savour. There was little else in a match in which their batsmen never managed to cope with a slow Edgbaston pitch. They lost their first five wickets for 33 through a succession of mis-timed shots against the medium pace of Munton and Small. The only partnership of

note was 43 between Gibson and Dale.

Warwickshire still have to contend with Nottinghamshire, who won by eight wickets with 19 balls to spare at Derby. Accomplished batting by Robinson and Johnson took them to victory after Derbyshire had failed to make a challenging total. At one stage they were 171 for two with ten overs still remaining, but the innings fell away.

Barnett, the former captain, contributed 99 off 106 balls and Adams a brisk 42, but only 58 runs came off the last ten overs. For Nottinghamshire, Robinson and Downman added 87 in 17 overs, the former dismissed ten runs short of a century when he uncharacteristically swung across the line at Harris. Cairns then came in to ensure

the target was reached with some ease.

There was an exceedingly close finish at Old Trafford, not for the first time this season in limited-overs cricket. On this occasion Lancashire beat Hampshire by one run. Smith contributing the highest score of the match, 77 from 63 balls.

Alas for him, his innings was not enough. In the closing stages of their innings, Hampshire, who required 224 in all, needed eight runs an over. This came down to eight needed off the last two balls. Renshaw, the tailender, sliced Yates to the boundary but could only manage two runs from the final ball, Lancashire's total included half-centuries from Atherton and Fairbrother, the nonpareil in this form of the game.

BY IVO TENNANT

LANCASHIRE have dismissed John Stanworth, their acting head coach, just a few days after defeating Yorkshire to reach their second one-day final of the summer. Bob Bennett, the club chairman, said: "He has done a great job and will stay in a senior capacity, but we have decided to look for a new man, preferably one with international experience."

Stanworth, who at the start of the summer took over from David Lloyd, now the England coach, will remain in the job until the end of the season. He is still determined to help Lancashire to win the NatWest Trophy to add to the Benson and Hedges Cup. "It is a massive blow, but I will not let it affect the team," he said.

Paul Terry, the Hampshire and former England opening batsman, is looking to play for another county next year after being told that his contract is not to be renewed. Aged 37, he has scored more than 16,000 runs for the county and played in two Tests against West Indies in 1984.

He has scored 1,000 runs in a season 11 times and made his career best score of 190 against Sri Lanka at Southampton in 1990. An outstanding catcher, he was overlooked for the Hampshire captaincy in favour of John Stephenson when Mark Nicholas retired at the end of last season.

A special general meeting of MCC members, chaired by Sir Oliver Popplewell, the president, is to be held at

Lord's on August 29 to vote on a resolution for the approval of the proposed new grandstand development.

The club said that its failure to obtain National Lottery funding for the project was "extremely disappointing" but it feels that it is vital to have a new edifice in place before the next World Cup is staged in England in 1999.

MCC describes the conditions in the lower tier as "very unsatisfactory and claustrophobic" and says there are substantial pockets of seating in the upper tier which have severely restricted views of the game. It is also claimed that the boxes and dining-rooms have become outdated and that access to the upper levels is inefficient.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
The Charity Commission for England and Wales has received a report from the trustees of the **St. John's Church, St. John's, London**, that they have decided to dissolve the charity and transfer its assets to the **St. John's Church, St. John's, London**. The Commission has accepted the report and the charity is now dissolved.

LEGAL NOTICES

Kingfisher Property
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above named company has been dissolved and its affairs are being wound up. All claims against the company must be presented to the liquidator by the 15th day of September 1996.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
The Insolvency Act 1986 (No. 25) provides that a person who is adjudicated bankrupt must submit a statement of affairs to the official receiver. The statement must be submitted by the 15th day of August 1996.

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AXA Equity & Law League

Derby v Nottingham

Derby (wps) won toss. Nottingham (wps) beat Derby by 133 runs

Derbyshire
Derbyshire (wps) won toss. Nottingham (wps) beat Derbyshire by 133 runs

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CRICKET

Salisbury case raises issue of transfer system

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

THIS is to be a busy, diverse and potentially unpalatable day for Sussex cricket. By this evening, they will know from Lord's if they are to be the first club to have a player suspended for failing a drugs test, before that, decisions of lesser profile but greater long-term moment will be taken at Hove.

The case of Ed Giddins, which finally comes before a discipline committee of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) this afternoon, is a diversion, unwelcome but of no alarming significance to cricket, as distinct from society. Drugs are not a cricketing problem, for the simple reason that the game is too long and measured for stimulants and steroids to be of any use. If Giddins did take any banned substance, it was surely not to improve his fast bowling.

But, if drugs will never become a major issue in cricket, player transfers most certainly will — in fact, other than to the ostrich tendency which rejects the mounting evidence, they already have. So this morning's meeting of the Sussex committee, one of many that will be taking place around the county clubs in the coming fortnight, is of singular interest. Their agenda is dominated by player contracts and their inclination is to question a system of gentlemanly tradition that is abused more flagrantly by the year.

Whatever Sussex decide about their traumatic relationship with Giddins, they will routinely be offering a new contract to their only present Test player, Ian Salisbury. And, although they will not admit quite so much, they will be expecting him to reject it.

Salisbury has been unsettled at Hove for some time and, only last year, turned down the offer of an extended contract. He has a fancy for playing on a Test ground, on a pitch that helps his leg spin, for a team that makes more runs than Sussex and a club that will pay him substantially more money. Surrey fit the bill.

Now that Salisbury's existing contract is about to expire

there is little Sussex can do to keep him. They can, and will, offer him new, improved terms and they can ensure that he is a List One, contested registration. But this will not deter any would-be employer when a Test cricketer is on the market and nor, more importantly, does it offer anything but moral restitution to the club suffering the loss.

There have been ample examples in recent seasons. Notable among them are Dean Headley, lost to Middlesex and now helping Kent to sustain a challenge for the title, and Nick Knight, who turned all at Essex when he left to join Warwickshire, the champions. There will assuredly be more.

Sussex may reluctantly have to swallow Salisbury's departure but the gathering momentum of player movement is fortifying them in the protection of their younger, home-bred talents. When the TCCB stages its summer meeting at Lord's tomorrow, Sussex are prepared to raise the issue of compensation payments for transfers.

It is not the first time this has been brought before the Board. Essex, enraged by their impotence when Warwickshire wooed Knight away, made a similar proposal two years ago. The majority of counties refused to listen or, more likely, refused to accept that such switching of clubs was becoming something more than a regrettable rarity.

They cannot be so complacent again. In all but name, cricket does now have a transfer system. It also has a considerable amount of money, the product of international revenue and television contracts, which is making the Test-staging clubs, in particular, tolerably rich. They can afford to seduce the best players away from the smaller clubs and, increasingly, they will do so.

Nigel Bett, the secretary of Sussex, is realistic about it. "We all know that clubs talk to

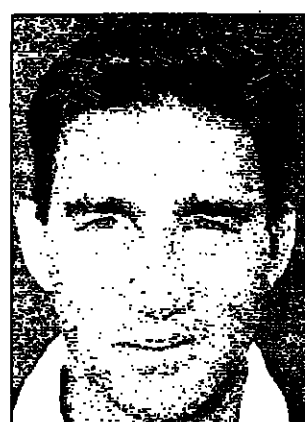
other counties' players if they think they might be willing to move and we are never going to stop that. In my view, cricket will soon have talent scouts operating, just as happens in football. We already have a transfer system and we must acknowledge it and find a method of regulating it more fairly."

Bett drew attention to the reported comments of Alan Curbishley, manager of Charlton Athletic, on the potential inequities of the football market. "Where will the incentive be for smaller clubs to have youth schemes if, after three years of nurturing a young talent, the player leaves on a free transfer? I simply cannot see the clubs bothering," Curbishley said.

Bett said: "The same thing applies in cricket. We have invested time and money in producing local boys like Danny Law and James Kirtley, who may go on to play for England. But we cannot match the salary figures that some big clubs are able to bandy about. We have no wish to lose any such players but my point is that there should be adequate compensation if we do."

It is the sound judgment of Bett that such payments ought simply to equate to twice the transferring player's annual salary, as documented on his P45. "There could be no dispute about that, because it is a legal form, and if we lose a player because we have been underpaying him, then we also lose out on the compensation."

Sussex should pursue this proposal, not only for their own good but for every similar county whose talent is at risk. They are not yet ready to support a two-division championship, a logical step now gaining backing from previously reluctant areas such as Yorkshire, but they accept the game is moving inexorably towards a divided elite. Those who might be marginalised deserve, at least, to see some financial incentive to continue the local production lines of young talent.



Giddins: drugs hearing



Salisbury: unsettled

Contenders keep Kent cogitating over the captaincy conundrum

CONFERRING the captaincy of Kent without rancour is an art that has not often been mastered by successive general committees. Bill Murray Wood learnt his dismissal in Canterbury week, when he heard the cry of a newspaper vendor on the boundary. Mike Denness, the most successful of all their leaders, was succeeded by Asif Iqbal after winning two trophies in one season. Chris Tavaré was replaced by Christopher Cowdrey against the wishes of the senior players. Being usurped or overlooked never did appeal to any cricketer.

The county's general committee has another harsh decision to make this autumn. It has a number of contenders to consider as Mark Benson's successor, none of whom is an obvious choice. Steve Marsh, even though he will be 36 next year and keeps wicket, which is sufficiently onerous in itself, will be the likely choice of the cricket committee. He is thought to have been a capable leader this season. Graham Cowdrey, whose father and brother led both county and country, would have been an obvious candidate had he not been dropped this season. So would Carl Hooper, the overseas player, had he not declared that he wished to concentrate on his batting. Trevor Ward has been mooted, not least because there is a concern he might be lured elsewhere when he is out of contract at the end of this year. The most likely alternative choice to Marsh would be

Selecting Mark Benson's replacement is no easy matter, Ivo Tennant reports

Matthew Fleming, the Old Etonian all-rounder who plays his cricket with a zest that the ancients would have recognised. What has exacerbated the situation is that Kent, at a time when they are challenging strongly for the county championship, have had three captains in three weeks: Marsh, before he was injured; Hooper, under whom they were beaten for the first time this season and who was offered the vice-captaincy earlier in the campaign; and Ward, who is leading them at present. Since the injured Benson will not play at all this season, and committees will never please everybody, a long-term decision might best be made henceforth.

But it will not be. It is, indeed, far from certain that

the recommendation of the cricket committee, upon which sits such notable former players as Denness, Bob Wilson, Derek Upton, the chairman, and, as co-opted members, Arthur Pebody, Derek Underwood and Graham Johnson, will be accepted by the general committee. "But this decision will not be made out of court by lobby groups, as might have been the case in the past," Stuart Anderson, the secretary, insists.

He was referring specifically to the Band of Brothers, not a masonic sect but a long-established Kent club with numerous influential members. It was revived in 1880 by the fourth Lord Harris, who made it a nursery for Kent amateur cricket.

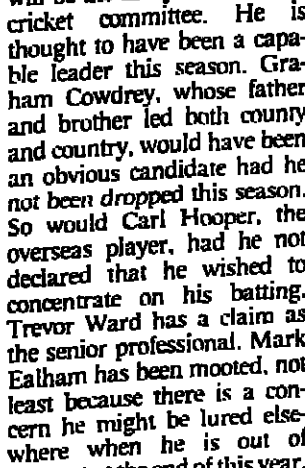
"The BBs have always had

great power in Kent cricket," Upton said. "Some Kent players have blamed them for everything. I don't — I think they act in the best interests of Kent cricket. But I do feel that the decision in the 1980s to replace Tavaré, whom the cricket committee wanted to retain as captain, set the club back ten years. Now, I think everything is being discussed in an amicable way."

The Band of Brothers, unlike Daryl Foster, the Kent coach, would favour Fleming, and not only on account of his background. He plays his cricket in the spirit they relish. And, because he is not dependent on the game for his living, he is not beholden to committees.

Upton's personal choice will be Marsh. As a former wicketkeeper, he knows better than most whether it is possible to combine that with the exacting of tasks with his captaincy. Alan Knott felt, when Denness left Kent in 1976, that it was feasible, but great cricketer though he was, he was overlooked.

Upton, who was a distinguished sportsman — he also played football for Charlton Athletic and England — concedes that, within the general committee, there is support for Fleming. "He is a lovely guy, he wants the captaincy and he tells everyone he wants it. I fully appreciate he would be the obvious choice for some people." He is aware, too, that his view is only a recommendation. Kent's decision in October will say something about where the true authority resides in the club.



Benson: out injured



Ward: senior player

Hollioake presses his England claims

Simon Wilde on the Surrey all-rounder who is in the frame for a tour place

On the first morning of the representative match between a TCCB XI and South Africa A at Chester-le-Street last Thursday, things were not going well for the bright young things of England. The seamers were bowling without luck and repeatedly passing the edge of the bat. What edges were found did not go to hand but often flew to the boundary. By lunch South Africa A had reached 150 for one.

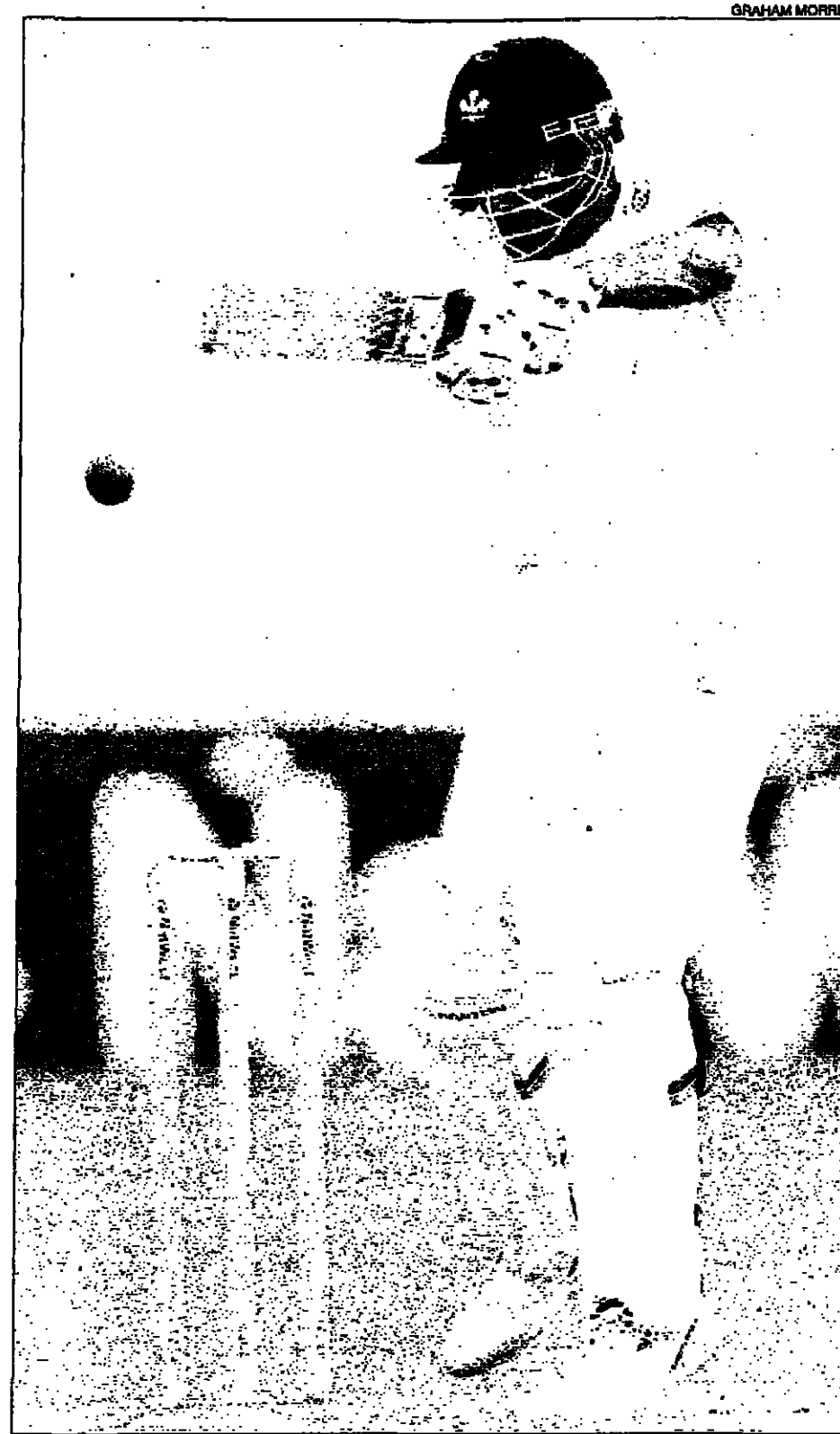
Most of the team were very uptight during that first session and Adam Hollioake, the captain, tried not to let his players see his own anxiety. He had to wrestle with himself to keep the slips in place until lunch, when he decided something had to be done.

"I told all the players to relax," he said. "I told them we had been chosen specially for the game, but if we were afraid of losing, things would not work. It was important we enjoyed ourselves. My speech had nothing to do with two wickets falling in the first over of the afternoon, but after that we were up and running."

Indeed they were, and on Saturday, seven sessions later, Hollioake's heroes had inflicted on the visitors the first defeat of their tour. The South Africans were not, in truth, very good but the improvised TCCB XI had achieved something that eluded a full England touring team, who played — and were beaten by — a South Africa A side in Kimberley last year.

The result should enhance Hollioake's personal cause. He is in the running for England's winter tours and is a strong contender for the captaincy of the A side to tour Australia, where he was born and lived until the age of 12.

He is deceptively calm. He claims not to care about the captaincy, putting down his willingness to gamble to an indifference to job security. But he expresses well-reasoned opinions that do not



Hollioake's contribution with the bat and as Stewart's deputy is always forthright

necessarily hold with the majority view, delivered with a cool-eyed conviction that suggests that he does not give ground easily.

He admits that if he were not captaining a side — which rarely happens as he is

deputy to Alec Stewart at Surrey — he would have to get involved in other ways. He unashamedly concedes that this might involve "talking to the opposition".

As someone who played five seasons of grade cricket

in Australia, Hollioake's local knowledge would be invaluable, but he may do better than that because, as England's search for a No 6 goes on, his name is in the frame. Quite rightly, too, because he is averaging over

60 with the bat and is one of the few specialists in the country. He knows exactly what is involved.

"As a batsman you must be worth your place in the side and capable of dealing with different situations," he said. "You could go in with your side in a strong position and needing you to drive home the advantage, or they could be a trouble and you've got to dig them out of it. As a bowler, you must be able to bowl ten tight overs while your main bowlers rest. I really enjoy it."

"If England are looking for another Ian Botham they are wasting their time. There isn't one. Brian McMillan is the only all-rounder in the world today. And fielding five bowlers is not the answer. No side in the world does that." He did not quite

'If England are only looking for another Botham, they are wasting their time'

say "I'm England's man", but that was probably the drift.

Hollioake strongly believes no side should ever go into a match without a spin bowler (this only a week after England's failed all-rounder strategy at Headingley) and thinks it "almost a crime" not to use every batsman in a limited-overs innings. Last week, Surrey lost a NatWest Trophy semi-final in which only three batsmen got to the crease before the 44th of 60 overs and Julian, an in-form big-hitter, did not bat at all.

"A lot of the other boys [in the Surrey side] thought the bowlers got it wrong," he said. "I thought we did not get enough runs." Stewart, he added, does not mind him offering his opinions. "One can imagine they come at a rate."

Hollioake — whose brother Ben has represented England Under-19 this summer — surely has something to offer England. His destructive batting would be well suited to one-day internationals, and though he may struggle to restrain the world's best with his seam bowling, he has devised some clever variations. He deserves a chance.

Batting failures hand initiative to New Zealand

By RUPERT COX

WORCESTER: (third day of four) New Zealand Under-19 beat England Under-19 by eight wickets

A CHASTENING defeat inside three days left Graham Sewell, the England Under-19 manager, at a loss to explain his team's indifferent performance at New Road.

The omens are not too propitious for England — they are without a victory in eight under-19 internationals against New Zealand — and must now

back the trend at Hove, where the final four-day game starts on Thursday, if they are to draw level in the three-match series.

The loss of their incisive new ball pairing of Alex Tudor, of Surrey, and Paul Hutchison, of Yorkshire, through injury has proved to be significant, only heightened by the continued absence of Alex Morris, the Yorkshire all-rounder, with a hand injury.

At Worcester, it was a lack of application among the early-order batsmen that undermined England with David Sewell, the touring team's

lively left-arm seamer, collecting match figures of ten for 98. On a reaid New Road wicket, New Zealand had been quietly content to be asked to field first on Thursday. Worcester is, though, always a perplexing wicket to read, and the reaid surface only added to the difficulties.

As it transpired, the wicket was at its most helpful for the seamers in the mornings and eased through the afternoon. Although Sewell did exploit some uneven bounce, the manner in which England's batsmen capitulated justified reprimand. The home team's

much-vaunted array of batting talent followed the lead of David Roberts who, in the match's third over, was fooled into hooking a bouncer from Sewell to fine leg.

England's first-innings total of 176 was woeful, but an excellent fightback on the second morning, instigated by Matthew Hoggard, on his under-19 debut, almost revived them. However, this is a resourceful and well-prepared New Zealand squad and through Gareth Hopkins, their wicketkeeper, the ascendancy and the match was snatched from England's grasp.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
DERBY (third day of four) Nottinghamshire, with six second-innings wickets in hand, require 330 runs to beat Derbyshire. Derbyshire: First innings 341 (D M Jones 5-380, 6-362, 7-376, 8-377, 9-377, 10-377, 11-377, 12-377, 13-377, 14-377, 15-377, 16-377, 17-377, 18-377, 19-377, 20-377, 21-377, 22-377, 23-377, 24-377, 25-377, 26-377, 27-377, 28-377, 29-377, 30-377, 31-377, 32-377, 33-377, 34-377, 35-377, 36-377, 37-377, 38-377, 39-377, 40-377, 41-377, 42-377, 43-377, 44-377, 45-377, 46-377, 47-377, 48-377, 49-377, 50-377, 51-377, 52-377, 53-377, 54-377, 55-377, 56-377, 57-377, 58-377, 59-377, 60-377, 61-377, 62-377, 63-377, 64-377, 65-377, 66-377, 67-377, 68-377, 69-377, 70-377, 71-377, 72-377, 73-377, 74-377, 75-377, 76-377, 77-377, 78-377, 79-377, 80-377, 81-377, 82-377, 83-377, 84-377, 85-377, 86-377, 87-377, 88-377, 89-377, 90-377, 91-377, 92-377, 93-377, 94-377, 95-377, 96-377, 97-377, 98-377, 99-377, 100-377, 101-377, 102-377, 103-377, 104-377, 105-377, 106-377, 107-377, 108-377, 109-377, 110-377, 111-377, 112-377, 113-377, 114-377, 115-377, 116-377, 117-377, 118-377, 119-377, 120-377, 121-377, 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Ironman fancies another quick dip before closing-time

David Powell on the men who swim, cycle, run a marathon and then swim some more

I was called the Longest Day triathlon and, as if swimming 2.4 miles, cycling 112 miles, and running a marathon, all without a break, were not enough, you had to be up before dawn to do it. The winner was still not satisfied, however, as he lay on the physiotherapist's couch straight after the race, and said that he was considering not staying for the 10m prize-giving. He wanted to get home for a club evening swim.

Those assembled at Gailey Reservoir, near Cannock, at daybreak yesterday, were there for Britain's only Ironman triathlon of the year. Although 350 triathletes are held annually in Great Britain, most are at distances up to one third of the Ironman. Yet, in 1995, this was named the British Triathlon Association's (BTA) race of the year.

One competitor arrived at the reservoir at 3.30am, just to make sure he did not miss the start. Who can blame him after paying £90 to enter? But the last few minutes before the off were not without a panic scene or two.

One sensed that Keith Scrivener thought his money might be wasted when he approached the water's edge sheepishly not wearing the obligatory bathing cap bearing his number. "I left it behind, my wife's gone to get it," he said, pleading. All that training and you forget your hat. In he went, capless, and no one objected. Philip Cheek almost missed the start when his wetsuit split as the athletes were walking down to the water. Fortunately for him, Allen McDougal, one of the race directors, had a spare one and a quick change solved the problem.

Already weary from the swim and ride, the athletes had to take to the road for a marathon on an afternoon when the temperature peaked at 94F. Yesterday's race was modelled on the original Ironman, first held in Hawaii in



The Longest Day starts early for the Ironman triathletes who take to the water for the opening discipline soon after sunrise. Photograph: Mike Scott

1978 and responsible for making the sport popular: not only were the distances replicated but so was the weather.

However, conditions proved ideal for Martin Foster, a chartered surveyor from Eltham, southeast London, who had spent a month in the south of France, near Avignon,

preparing for this challenge in weather identical to that now scorching Britain. Foster, 30, led from start to finish, setting a course record of 8hr 45min 05sec, a commendable performance in such heat and within half an hour of Julian Jenkinson's British record of 8:15:21.

Foster is of a good club standard at swimming, cycling and running and puts the three together to considerable effect. He won a silver medal in the butterfly at the Surrey championships this year, is a category two rider, and set a personal best in the marathon of 2hr 36min when finishing runner-

up in the 1995 Taunton race. Last year he was twelfth in the European Ironman championship. Showing rare discipline, Foster combines his heavy training programme with a 50-hour working week, thankful that his employer is flexible about time off. "I am allowed to take three hours for

lunch some days," he said. "My boss is very understanding." Chris Ray, seeking a hat-trick of victories in this event, spent more than eight hours chasing Foster yesterday but never moved close enough to pose a threat. While Foster was expected to win the swim, Ray was known to be the

stronger cyclist, perhaps capable of closing the 8min 21sec gap between them out of the water. He reduced it only to 5:41 after nearly five hours of riding. On the marathon, Foster extended his winning margin to 27 minutes.

In his only previous appearance at this event in 1994, Foster finished runner-up to Ray. Now he took not only Ray's title but his course record, which had stood at 8:48:25. Ray, a corporal in the Royal Marines, has, like Foster, a flexible employer and trained full-time for ten weeks in preparation for yesterday's ordeal. "I think the triathlon image suits the Marines," Carol, his wife and a development officer for the BTA, said.

Tough though he is, Ray knew he could not leave for the mara-

'Tough though he is, Ray knew he could not leave for the marathon without his water'

thon without his water. It was one of the more bizarre sights of the day, watching Ray, who found his drinks bottle empty, pouring cups of water from a leading station into his container, losing valuable time as he did so.

Among those who failed to finish was Nicky Farrugia, who once spent 30 hours swimming from Sicily to Malta. His swimming was fine, but the running proved too much.

Others, such as Paul Boshell, knowing they would be out on the marathon course for most of a blazing hot afternoon, covered themselves in suntan cream before leaving the transition tent. For a few, the Longest Day did not end until 9.30pm, the deadline for finishing. By then, Foster, provided that he made it to his local pool, still had half an hour to swim before closing-time.

Sport for all, page 38

Guilt trip grows as the day of sailing approaches

By James Capstick

SIXTY thousand screaming teenage pop fans on Clapham Common, marked my last duty. As a sergeant in the Metropolitan police mounted branch, it was a normal day to me, except that I was aware that any incident could disrupt my plans for the next year. Next month, I set sail as a crew member on *Ocean Rover*, one of 14 yachts racing around the world on the BT Global Challenge. Any recall from my year off to attend court or an inquiry would have led to huge problems.

However, the event went off without a hitch, and it was with a spring in my step that a few days later I left the stable at Wandsworth police station, free from any such worries. It is ironic that I have spent the past 21 years wearing a uniform and now, when I have the opportunity to throw it off for a while, it is replaced by another, albeit the colourful

When Chay Blyth announced the BT Global Challenge two years ago, he had 6,000 applicants for 165 places on the 1996 fleet, each of which cost the successful entrant £18,750. The Times reserved two berths — one for a man and one for a woman — and offered bursaries towards their costs and the chance to write about their experiences in the paper. Readers were asked to submit an essay on why they wanted to take part in a tough yacht race against

harlequin kit of the *Ocean Rover* team. I believe the reason it is called the "world's toughest yacht race" has as much to do with the task of sorting out your home life as it has to do with sailing. While all the crew have to get their affairs in order, I have the added

problem of leaving behind a young family — Stephen, ten, and Christopher, seven. If that is not difficult enough, when I sail from Southampton, my wife, Tracey, will be only two weeks away from giving birth to our third child. As I cannot afford to fly home from Rio de Janeiro, the

first stop en route, I will have to wait until January 1997 to see the baby, when the family have planned to meet me on the second stopover in Wellington, New Zealand. The guilt of leaving at such a time is still there and, although I have tremendous support from my wife and

family, it will haunt me all around the world. People who hear my story rightly consider that all the credit thus far should go to Tracey.

Our two boys are starting to realise the enormity of losing their father for a long time and, although they have become used to me being away for a week or so at a time when I am sailing, Christopher has already started to get quite clingy and Stephen is becoming a bit bossy with his brother and mother. While I'm away he will be the little man of the house, but I can imagine a battle of wills over the next year between Stephen and his mother — not to mention the effect of my return.

As a crew, the *Ocean Rover* team have only been together since January and we are still getting to know each other. We have been training and practising hard (especially for the stopovers), and have had several bonding sessions in

the various hostels around Southampton. Some of the crew have already become infamous for actions both on and off the boat with the very conspicuous *Ocean Rover* kit always very much in evidence.

With only weeks to go until the off, my brain is going into overdrive, especially as Tracey has announced that, with a new baby, we will have to move house, so we might as well do it before I go. All I have to do is say whether I agree with her choice and she will do the rest. Finding the money will be a good trick.

At least my dilemma as to what to take in the way of kit on the boat has been resolved for me. Paul Bennett, the *Ocean Rover* skipper, told us that each of the crew can only take 14 items of clothing with them, and that a pair of socks counts as two items. Cheers Paul. Still, if you can't take a joke, you shouldn't have joined.

CYCLING

Sciandri's mistake is decisive

By Peter Bryan

A MOMENT'S hesitation cost Max Sciandri dearly in the Leeds Classic yesterday. The Briton was bidding to become the first rider to defend a previous year's World Cup victory when he mis-timed his effort in a two-man sprint in the last 100 metres of the 231 kilometres race. It cost him the win he wanted most after the Olympic Games and, ironically, was almost a replay of last month's road race finish in Atlanta, when he had to settle for a bronze medal behind Pascal Richard and Rolf Sorensen.

Yesterday, it was Andrea Ferrigato, of Italy, who came between the winning line and Sciandri, launching his decisive attack when he switched from the right to the left hand side of the finishing straight to win by 15cc.

Perhaps Sciandri's frustration then got the better of him, for, after the race, he was missing from the podium for the presentations and was "fined" ten of the 35 World Cup points he had gained as runner-up and also \$Fr2,000 (about £1,000).

Earlier, on a demanding course, Sciandri led a six-strong breakaway group with Lance Armstrong, his Motorola team colleague, less than 50 kilometres from the finish and with only modest climbs remaining. They took it in turns to wear down their companions, until, with 20 kilometres left, Sciandri made his break, with only Ferrigato going with him. With the line in sight, the pair had a lead of 50sec, time enough for a spell of freewheeling while they jockeyed for position. However, the short sprint did not favour Sciandri, leaving him with no hope of overhauling his rival.

Johan Museeuw, of Belgium, led in the chasers to finish third, 5sec ahead of Armstrong, and increase his overall lead in the 11-race competition, which ends in October.

IN BRIEF

Davenport ends Graf's dominance

LINDSAY DAVENPORT, the Olympic champion, beat Steffi Graf 6-3, 6-3 to reach the final of the Acura Classic at Manhattan Beach, California. It was Davenport's first victory over the world No 1 after four defeats in which she had won just one set.

Davenport, the world No 10, will meet Anke Huber, of Germany, the No 2 seed, who beat Karina Habšudova, of Slovakia, 7-6, 6-3 in the other semi-final.

Criville edges it

Motorcycling: Alex Criville, of Spain, snatched victory from team-mate Michael Doohan in the final of the Czech 500cc grand prix in Brno yesterday in a repeat of his upset win in Austria two weeks ago. Criville beat Doohan in a photo-finish to win by two-thousandths of a second, the closest ever winning margin in a 500cc race.

Braisher wins

Shooting: Neil Braisher, an engineer from Chichester, won the Earl Roberts trophy and British prone smallbore rifle championship for a fourth time at Bisley on Saturday. Braisher scored 779, with Michael Babb of Appleton, Cheshire, second on 774.

England double

Lacrosse: England had a double triumph when the men defeated the Czech Republic 9-5 and the women beat Wales 3-2 to become European champions at the finals in Düsseldorf on Saturday.

Local knowledge

Motorcycling: Niall MacKenzie increased his lead in the Motor Cycle News British superbike championship with a double victory in the sixth round at his local Knockhill circuit.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S SIX RACE MEETINGS

Newbury

Going good
2.00 (7) 64yd 1, Cool Edge (P) Robinson, 6-11; 2, Aig (12-1); 3, Threepart (6-1); 4, 1st 12-1; 5, 1st 12-1; 6, 1st 12-1; 7, 1st 12-1; 8, 1st 12-1; 9, 1st 12-1; 10, 1st 12-1; 11, 1st 12-1; 12, 1st 12-1; 13, 1st 12-1; 14, 1st 12-1; 15, 1st 12-1; 16, 1st 12-1; 17, 1st 12-1; 18, 1st 12-1; 19, 1st 12-1; 20, 1st 12-1; 21, 1st 12-1; 22, 1st 12-1; 23, 1st 12-1; 24, 1st 12-1; 25, 1st 12-1; 26, 1st 12-1; 27, 1st 12-1; 28, 1st 12-1; 29, 1st 12-1; 30, 1st 12-1; 31, 1st 12-1; 32, 1st 12-1; 33, 1st 12-1; 34, 1st 12-1; 35, 1st 12-1; 36, 1st 12-1; 37, 1st 12-1; 38, 1st 12-1; 39, 1st 12-1; 40, 1st 12-1; 41, 1st 12-1; 42, 1st 12-1; 43, 1st 12-1; 44, 1st 12-1; 45, 1st 12-1; 46, 1st 12-1; 47, 1st 12-1; 48, 1st 12-1; 49, 1st 12-1; 50, 1st 12-1; 51, 1st 12-1; 52, 1st 12-1; 53, 1st 12-1; 54, 1st 12-1; 55, 1st 12-1; 56, 1st 12-1; 57, 1st 12-1; 58, 1st 12-1; 59, 1st 12-1; 60, 1st 12-1; 61, 1st 12-1; 62, 1st 12-1; 63, 1st 12-1; 64, 1st 12-1; 65, 1st 12-1; 66, 1st 12-1; 67, 1st 12-1; 68, 1st 12-1; 69, 1st 12-1; 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Study the list of players and managers, assess their ITF values and pick a team to beat the best

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
10101	Michael Watt	Aberdeen	1.50
10201	David Seaman	Arsenal	5.00
10202	Vince Bartram	Arsenal	0.75
10203	John Lukic	Arsenal	0.75
10301	Michael Oakes	Aston Villa	3.50
10302	Tim Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
10401	Shay Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00
10501	Gordon Marshall	Celtic	3.50
10601	Dmitri Kharine	Chelsea	2.50
10602	Kevin Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00
10701	Steve Ogilvie	Coventry City	1.50
10702	John Folan	Coventry City	0.50
10801	Martin Taylor	Derby County	1.00
10802	Russell Hout	Derby County	1.00
10901	Ally Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50
11001	Ian Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50
11101	Neville Southall	Everton	2.50
11102	Jason Kearton	Everton	0.50
11103	Paul Gerrard	Everton	2.50
11201	Gilles Rousset	Hearts	2.00
11301	Jim Leighton	Hibernian	1.50
11401	Dragoje Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00
11501	Mark Beesley	Leeds United	1.50
11502	Paul Evans	Leeds United	0.25
11503	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	2.50
11601	Kevin Poole	Leicester City	1.00
11602	Zeljko Kalac	Leicester City	0.50
11603	Kasey Keller	Leicester City	1.00
11701	David James	Liverpool	5.00
11702	Tony Warner	Liverpool	0.50
11801	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00
11802	Raimond van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00
11901	Gary Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50
11902	Alan Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50
12001	Scott Howie	Motherwell	1.50
12101	Shaka Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00
12102	Pavel Smrcek	Newcastle United	3.00
12201	Mark Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50
12202	Alan Pettit	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12203	Tommy Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12301	Scott Y. Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50
12401	Kevin Gorm	Rangers	5.00
12501	Kevin Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00
12601	Dave Beasant	Southampton	1.00
12602	Neil Moss	Southampton	0.25
12603	Tony Colton	Sunderland	1.00
12801	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50
12901	Ludek Miklos	West Ham United	2.00
12902	Steve Mautone	West Ham United	0.50
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00
13002	Paul Heald	Wimbledon	1.00

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
20101	Stewart McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00
20201	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	3.00
20202	Nigel Winterburn	Arsenal	1.00
20203	Steve Morrow	Arsenal	1.00
20301	Steve Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00
20302	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	2.50
20303	Gary Charles	Aston Villa	0.25
20304	Phil King	Aston Villa	3.00
20305	Fernando Nelson	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20401	Hennning Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20402	Graeme Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20403	Jeff Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
20404	Gary Croft	Celtic	3.00
20501	Jackie McNamara	Celtic	3.00
20502	Toshi McKinlay	Chelsea	3.00
20601	Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	2.00
20602	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	2.00
20603	Tony Phelan	Chelsea	1.00
20604	Scott Minto	Chelsea	1.00
20701	David Burrows	Coventry City	1.50
20702	Brian Borrows	Coventry City	1.00
20703	Marcus Hall	Coventry City	1.00
20704	Regis Genoux	Coventry City	1.50
20801	Chris Powell	Derby County	1.00
20802	Dean Yates	Derby County	1.00
20803	Jason Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25
20901	Maurice Malpas	Dundee United	1.00
20902	Mark Perry	Dundee United	0.50
20903	Neil Duffy	Dundee United	0.50
21001	Colin Miller	Dunfermline	0.25
21002	Andy Tod	Dunfermline	0.25
21101	Marc Hoteller	Everton	1.50
21102	Andy Hinchcliffe	Everton	1.50
21103	Earl Barrett	Everton	1.00
21104	Matt Jackson	Everton	2.00
21201	Gary Locke	Hearts	1.00
21202	Neil Pointon	Hearts	1.00
21301	William Miller	Hibernian	1.00
21302	Andy Dow	Hibernian	0.75
21401	Tom Black	Kilmarnock	0.50
21402	Gus MacPherson	Kilmarnock	3.00
21501	Gary Kelly	Leeds United	2.50
21502	Tony Dorogi	Leeds United	0.50
21503	Paul Beesley	Leeds United	0.50
21601	Mike Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50
21602	Simon Grayson	Leicester City	0.50
21603	Neil Lewis	Leicester City	0.25
21604	Frank Roling	Leicester City	3.00
21701	Rob Jones	Liverpool	1.50
21702	Steve Harkness	Liverpool	0.50
21703	Stig Inge Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.25
21801	Phil Charnock	Liverpool	4.00
21802	Dennis Irwin	Manchester United	3.00
21803	Gary Neville	Manchester United	2.50
21901	Neil Cox	Middlesbrough	1.50
21902	Chris Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50
21903	Curtis Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.25
21904	Clayton Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.50
22002	Stephen McMillan	Motherwell	3.00
22101	Warren Barton	Newcastle United	3.00
22102	Steve Watson	Newcastle United	2.50
22103	Robbie Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50
22104	John Beresford	Newcastle United	4.00
22201	Stuart Pearce	Nottingham Forest	2.00
22202	Des Lyle	Nottingham Forest	1.00
22203	Alf Inge Haaland	Nottingham Forest	2.00
22301	Nikola Jerkan	Raith Rovers	0.75
22302	Paul Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.50
22303	David Kirkwood	Rangers	2.50
22401	David Robertson	Rangers	2.00
22402	John Brown	Sheffield Wed	1.50
22501	Ian Nolan	Sheffield Wed	1.50
22502	Peter Atherton	Sheffield Wed	1.00
22503	Steve Nicol	Sheffield Wed	1.00
22504	Dejan Stefanovic	Sheffield Wed	0.50
22505	Lee Briscoe	Sheffield Wed	1.50
22601	Jason Dodd	Southampton	0.75
22602	Francis Benali	Southampton	0.75
22603	Simon Charlton	Sunderland	0.50
22701	Dariusz Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50
22702	Martin Scott	Sunderland	0.25
22703	Gareth Hall	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22801	Dean Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22802	Clyve Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00
22803	Justin Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
22804	David Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00
22901	Julian Dicks	West Ham United	1.00
22902	Tim Breacker	West Ham United	1.00
22903	Keith Rowland	West Ham United	1.00
22904	Mark Bowen	West Ham United	0.50
22905	Kenny Brown	Wimbledon	1.50
23001	Ben Thatcher	Wimbledon	0.75
23002	Alan Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75
23003	Ken Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75
23004	Duncan Jupp	Wimbledon	0.25
23005	Gary Elkins	Wimbledon	0.25
23006	Chris Perry	Wimbledon	0.25



David Ginola, Newcastle's French winger, possesses plenty of trickery. But can he do the trick for you in ITF?

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
30101	Brian Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00
30102	Colin Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	4.00
30202	Steve Bould	Arsenal	3.00
30203	Martin Keown	Arsenal	3.00
30204	Andy Linington	Arsenal	1.00
30205	Scott Marshall	Arsenal	1.00
30301	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50
30302	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	2.50
30303	Paul McGrath	Aston Villa	3.00
30304	Carl Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00
30305	Ricardo Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00
30401	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00
30402	Ian Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30403	Chris Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	0.50
30404	Nicky Marder	Blackburn Rovers	0.75
30501	Tommy Boyd	Celtic	1.50
30502	Malik Mackay	Celtic	1.50
30503	Alan Stubbs	Celtic	1.50
30601	Michael Duberry	Chelsea	2.50
30602	Frank LeBoeuf	Chelsea	2.00
30603	Frank Sinclair	Chelsea	1.50
30604	David Lee	Chelsea	2.00
30605	Andy Myers	Chelsea	1.50
30606	Erland Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50
30701	Jakob Keldbjerg	Coventry City	1.50
30702	Liam Daish	Coventry City	1.50
30703	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	1.00
30801	Igor Stimac	Derby County	2.50
30802	Darren Wassall	Derby County	1.00
30803	Jacob Laursen	Derby County	0.50
30804	Matthew Carbone	Derby County	0.50
30901	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	1.00
30902	Brian Welsh	Dundee United	0.75
31001	Marc Miller	Dunfermline	0.75
31002	Ivo den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75
31101	David Unsworth	Everton	2.50
31102	David Watson	Everton	2.50
31103	Craig Short	Everton	2.00
31201	Dave McPherson	Hearts	1.00
31202	Paul Ritchie	Hearts	0.50
31301	Joe McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50
31302	Gordon Hunter	Hibernian	1.00
31401	Mark Reilly	Kilmarnock	0.75
31402	Ray Montgomery	Kilmarnock	2.50
31501	David Wetherall	Leeds United	1.00
31502	Richard Johnson	Leeds United	1.00
31503	Lucas Radebe	Leeds United	0.50
31504	John Pemberton	Leeds United	1.00
31601	Steve Walsh	Leicester City	1.00
31602	Julian Watts	Leicester City	1.00
31603	Pontus Karnaark	Leicester City	1.00
31604	Spencer Prior	Liverpool	3.50
31701	Phil Babb	Liverpool	3.50
31702	John Scalls	Liverpool	3.50
31703	Mark Wright	Liverpool	3.50
31704	Neil Ruddock	Liverpool	1.00
31705	Dominic Matteo	Liverpool	3.50
31801	Gary Pallister	Manchester United	3.00
31802	David May	Manchester United	2.50
31803	Ronnie Johnson	Manchester United	2.50
31901	Nigel Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50
31902	Steve Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50
31903	Derek Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75
31904	Phil Whelan	Middlesbrough	1.50
32001	Brian Martin	Motherwell	1.50
32002	Michel van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75
32101	Philippe Albert	Newcastle United	4.50
32102	Steve Howey	Newcastle United	3.00
32103	Darren Pascoe	Newcastle United	3.00
32201	Colin Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00
32202	Steve Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50
32301	Shaun Dennis	Raith Rovers	3.50
32302	Richard Gough	Rangers	3.00
32401	Alan McLean	Rangers	3.50
32402	Joachim Bjorklund	Rangers	2.00
32501	Jon Newsome	Sheffield Wed	1.50
32502	Des Walker	Sheffield Wed	0.25
32503	Brian Linington	Sheffield Wed	1.50
32601	Ken Monkou	Southampton	1.00
32602	Alan Nelson	Southampton	1.00
32603	Richard Dryden	Southampton	1.00
32701	Andrew Melville	Sunderland	1.00
32702	Kevin Ball	Sunderland	1.00
32703	Richard O'Donnell	Sunderland	1.00
32801	Sel Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32802	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32803	Gary Mabbitt	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32804	Jason Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32901	Kevin Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32902	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32903	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32904	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32905	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32906	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32907	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32908	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32909	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32910	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32911	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32912	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32913	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32914	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32915	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32916	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32917	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32918	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32919	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32920	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32921	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32922	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32923	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32924	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32925	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32926	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32927	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32928	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32929	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32930	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32931	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32932	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32933	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32934	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32935	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32936	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32937	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32938	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32939	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32940	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32941	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32942	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32943	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32944	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32945	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32946	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32947	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32948	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32949	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32950	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32951	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32952	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32953	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32954	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32955	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32956	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32957	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32958	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32959	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32960	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50

Sally Jones discovers triathlon — throbbing thighs, the 'coffin' crawl and head-first dismounts from a bicycle

Why 8,000 women can't be wrong

My first sight of triathlon was both revolting and disturbing. Idly flicking through the television channels in 1982, I watched appalled as a slight young woman called Julie Moss, obviously in the final stages of exhaustion, crawled almost unconsciously the last few paces of a marathon, having already completed a 2½-mile swim and a 112-mile bike ride non-stop in blazing sunshine.

Within a few heartbreaking yards of the winning post, her nearest rival overtook her to claim the Women's Hawaii Ironman Championship while Moss inched across the line 29 seconds later, her implacable will to win etched on her haggard, salt-caked face.

What sort of freaks and

SPORT FOR ALL

masochists were these people who drove themselves beyond the limits of their endurance over such vast distances? Surely it was a purely American phenomenon? But no. Soon afterwards I met the British women's champion, Dr Sarah Springman, who was also a Cambridge engineering don, fitting her three hours' training each day around a 12-hour stint in the laboratory.

Despite a moderate background in swimming and running, as a former Oxford modern pentathlete, I mentally crossed triathlon off my list: at least until last month, when the new British champion, Rachel Horn, 27, from Cambridge, described how she had taken up triathlon only three years ago and was now training hard for next week's world championships in Cleveland, Ohio.

A former engineering undergraduate at Magdalene College, she was a county standard cross-country runner and club swimmer but entered her first triathlon in 1993 only after encouragement from Dr Springman, her supervisor. Horn began a heavy training programme that within a year took her to fifth place in the



Rachel Horn, the British triathlon champion, says of her sport: "What I like is the way you see yourself improve against other people and the friendship and encouragement you get, even from big rivals"

British championships. This year she took the British title, despite having to fit up to 3½ hours' training a day around the 12-hour shifts she works getting on-site experience at the Hackney-M1 link road.

"Come and do a training session with me," she urged. "What do you mean, not fit enough? When I first started I was running just two miles a week and I'd scarcely sat on a bike." It was nevertheless with some trepidation that I clambered aboard Rachel's second-string racing bike. Triathletes specialise in looking as much like sci-fi insect-alien as possible and talk knowledgeably of their pulse rates and body fat percentages, both usually in single figures.

Bottom higher than head, I pedalled wearily in Rachel's slipstream for three miles to the school pool in Impington, where she trains with the

Cambridge Triathlon Club. While she donned goggles and began her rapid, metronomic crawl up and down the fast lane of the 50-metre pool, I followed more sedately in the wake of Don Hutchinson, a trim, humorous man training for the 50-54 age group of the world championships.

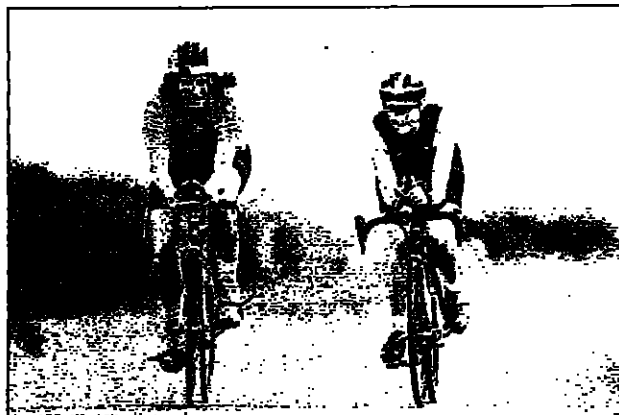
After 32 lengths of so-called "steady pace" and "full pressure" crawl (my own version of this was "very slow" and "slow"), I was gasping and rolling in the water or snatching a few crafty strokes of backstroke to get my breath back. "Swim as though you are in a coffin," Don said, "make yourself as long and straight as you can."

I essayed another 32 lengths, some arms only and some in my newly discovered "coffin crawl", feeling towards the end as though the metaphor might be too close for

comfort. As I panted hard, summoning the energy to get out of the pool, Rachel described the mad dash from open water swim to cycle race in the heat of competition: competitors pulling off their wet suits en route to the transition area where each triathlete's bike and cycling gear is waiting in its allotted space. To cut changeover times to a minimum, top competitors even do regular "transition practices".

Next came our cycle session, accompanied by Rob Staples, a star fell-runner, and Gary Speechley, a former road-racing cyclist. My elbows resting on the "tri-bars", designed to give the cyclist the most aerodynamic position, I almost dismounted head-first, then pedalled furiously to try to keep up with my companions' "medium pace".

Twelve miles later came a



Sci-fi insect-alien: the author (left) and Rachel Horn

stretching and warm-up session. We practised a series of running drills — "high knees", a prancing action with your thighs parallel to the ground; "fast feet", flicking your feet back to hit your bottom at each

pace. Triathletes soon learn to ignore the ignorant mockery of passers-by, but I felt a right berk.

Most of Horn's training consists of repetitions of runs from 400 to 1,500 metres,

interspersed with several ten-mile runs each week to build up strength and endurance. "I began with a very low mileage," she said, "and only built it up gradually. I started cycle training with my old touring bike and didn't even take the bell off before my first competition. What I like about triathlon is the way you see yourself improve against other people — and the incredible friendship and encouragement you get, even from big rivals."

After a few minutes rest, I attempted a short but agonising run, my thighs still throbbing after the morning's exertions and finally limped home at a pace akin to Peter Rabbit's "lippy, lippy, not very fast". My next step? Train for a couple of hours each week, enter the shortest novice triathlon I can find and, literally, take the plunge.

HOW TO START

TRIATHLON started in the early 1970s after a fitness freak from San Diego, appropriately named David Pain, staged the David Pain birthday triathlon: a six-mile run followed by a half-mile swim.

In 1974 the first triathlon was held and included five miles of running and cycling, interspersed with two quarter-mile swims; chickenfeed compared to the formidable Hawaii Ironman — a 2½-mile swim in open water, a 112-mile cycle race and a marathon. Television coverage of Julie Moss's ordeal amazingly inspired 50 per cent more triathletes to compete in the event the following year.

Britain is one of the top triathlon nations with about 50,000 people, including 8,000 women, competing regularly in a variety of events with age groups ranging from eight to 80 plus. The oldest regular competitor is 81-year-old Patrick Barnes. The male world champion for the past four years has been British: Simon Lessing in 1992 and 1995, Spencer Smith in 1993 and 1994. Both are expected to be among the contenders for a gold medal when triathlon becomes a full Olympic sport at Sydney in 2000.

Equipment: most of the basic kit is relatively cheap or can be bought secondhand. The swimming requires goggles (£5) and a costume or Lycra two-piece (about £25) which for open water races is worn under a wetsuit (£100 second-hand or £200 plus new). For the cycling, the main expense is a racing bike: these can range from £250 to £2,000 plus while the helmet and cycling shoes, which clip directly to the pedals, are each about £30. Some triathletes cycle in padded shorts (£20) but many opt to compete in swimming costume or two-piece throughout the bike and run to save time at transitions. Most newcomers start off with basic trainers (about £50) for the run, graduating to more specialised running shoes as they gain experience.

How to start: Most of Britain's 230 clubs run training days to teach potential competitors how to prepare for their first race. Each course is linked to a short novice event. The accent is more on fitness and enjoyment than competition.

The British Triathlon Association, Box 26, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 2ZR (01530 414234).

JON GORNALL

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

At first sight you might think this was one of those hands where you play to keep the danger hand out of the lead, but South saw more deeply into the position.

Dealer South	Game all	Rubber bridge
♠ AK84 ♥ 752 ♦ Q83 ♣ 44 ♠ 109 ♥ AQJ109 ♦ 952 ♣ K107 ♠ 782 ♥ K5 ♦ AQJ104 ♣ AQ63	N W E S ♠ QJ53 ♥ 643 ♦ 76 ♣ 9852	
S 1C 1NT W 1H Pass N 1S 3NT E Pass All pass		

Contract: 3NT by South. Lead: ten of spades

As he held a likely entry in the king of clubs, West might reasonably have chanced giving up a trick in hearts but he was afraid that this might give declarer his ninth trick so he started passively with the ten of spades.

South could see seven tricks on top and at least one more could be established in clubs. As he could not afford to lose the lead to East (because of the danger of a damaging heart return) it seemed natural to lead clubs from dummy, but that offered little prospect of more than eight tricks.

South decided to hope that the club finesse was wrong. He won with the king of spades, came to hand with a diamond, and led a low club

towards the jack.

When this held (if West had taken his king, declarer would have had three tricks in the suit), he was more or less home. He cashed a second spade and the remaining diamonds, then followed with the ace of clubs.

The best that poor West could do was unblock by throwing his king under the ace — otherwise he is thrown in with a third club and forced to concede a heart trick as well. At least in this way he was able to restrict South to nine tricks.

Robert Sheehan writes on Bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ASILUS
a. Having no head
b. A fly
c. A Roman copper coin

GALJOEN
a. A fish
b. A Dutch measure
c. An itinerant harpist

DATO
a. An assignation
b. A fact
c. A chieftain

CHENA
a. The black panther
b. Fermented coconut juice
c. Shifting cultivation

Answers on page 41

KEENE on CHESS

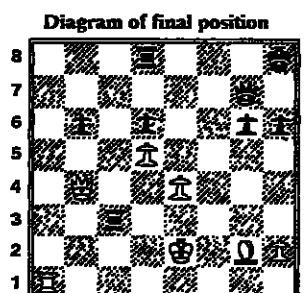
By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Ward wins

When this year's British Championship at Nottingham opened, the firm favourite was grandmaster, Matthew Sadler, from Chatham in Kent. Apart from being the defending champion, Sadler had notched up a series of first prizes in international tournaments and significantly improved his rating. However, in the championship itself, Sadler came unstuck in the following game against Chris Ward, who employed the sharp Benoni Defence. After much manoeuvring the game burst into life, but it was Ward, rather than the reigning champion, who saw his way more clearly through the tactics. This was a key victory for Ward on his way to winning this year's championship.

White: Matthew Sadler
Black: Chris Ward
British Championship, Nottingham, August 1996

Modern Benoni	
1 d4	Nf6
2 c4	e6
3 Nf3	c5
4 d5	exd5
5 Nc3	c6
6 cxd5	Bg7
7 Nc2	0-0
8 Nc4	0-0
9 g3	Ne8
10 h4	Nd7
11 Bg2	Ba6
12 0-0	
13 Na3	h5
14 Bd2	Ne5
15 Qc1	Nf6
16 Bf6	Bd6
17 Ra2	
18 Qd4	Nf5
19 Qc1	h4
20 Na6	h6
21 b3	Rf7
22 Ne4	Bxb5



Leading scores

Final results from the British Championship were as follows: Chris Ward 9/11; Jonathan Parker 8½; Aaron Summerscale 8; Matthew Sadler, John Emms and Graham Lee 7.5. 12 year old prodigy Luke McShane lost in the last round and, therefore, missed securing an international master result.

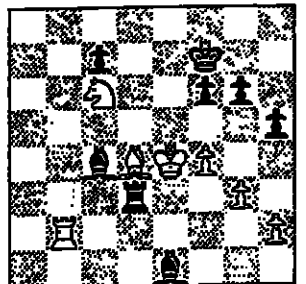
New Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from International Grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column and is available from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01576 321276 at 50-99p+p&p).

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Gelfand — Shirov, France 1996. Beginners are often told that the king is a strong piece and should be used actively in the endgame. However, despite the reduced material in endgame positions it is still necessary to be on the look-out for tactics and snap checkmates. What did Black spot here?



Solution on page 41

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
460000 Allied Breweries	460	-1	6.1	10
460000 Allied Breweries	460	-1	6.1	10
460000 Allied Breweries	460	-1	6.1	10
460000 Allied Breweries	460	-1	6.1	10
460000 Allied Breweries	460	-1	6.1	10

BANKS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
1034700 ABN-AMRO	1034	-1	4.1	11
1034700 ABN-AMRO	1034	-1	4.1	11
1034700 ABN-AMRO	1034	-1	4.1	11
1034700 ABN-AMRO	1034	-1	4.1	11
1034700 ABN-AMRO	1034	-1	4.1	11

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
780000 Asahi Brew	780	-1	5.5	11
780000 Asahi Brew	780	-1	5.5	11
780000 Asahi Brew	780	-1	5.5	11
780000 Asahi Brew	780	-1	5.5	11
780000 Asahi Brew	780	-1	5.5	11

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
570000 Asahi Brew	570	-1	4.1	11
570000 Asahi Brew	570	-1	4.1	11
570000 Asahi Brew	570	-1	4.1	11
570000 Asahi Brew	570	-1	4.1	11
570000 Asahi Brew	570	-1	4.1	11

BUILDING MATERIALS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

CHEMICALS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

DISTRIBUTORS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

ELECTRICITY

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

ENGINEERING

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

INSURANCE

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

LEISURE & HOTELS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

MINING

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

PROPERTY

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

OIL & GAS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

OTHER FINANCIAL

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

RETAILERS, FOOD

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

WATER

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

INDEX LINKED ON PROJECTED INFLATION

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

LONGS (over 15 years)

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

UNLISTED

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

BRITISH FUNDS

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

MEDIA

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10
145000 Asahi Brew	1450	-1	3.1	10

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Alliance Trust, Argos, Hibernian Group, Jupiter International Green Investment Trust, Michael Page Group, Prospect Japan Fund, Taylor Nelson AGB, Waco Group. Finals: Syndicate Capital Trust. Economic statistics: US Treasury auction of short-term T-bills, Bank of France money market tender, Bank of France discount T-bill auction, French BT auction.

TOMORROW

Interims: Cussins Property Group, Glenchewan, Grasseby, Kerry Group, Orange, Perry Gp. Finals: Armitage Brothers, British Sky Broadcasting. Economic statistics: UK July M4 money supply, UK July M4 lending, UK BSA monthly statement — July, UK building societies monthly figures — July, Bank of England announces details of August 28 gilt auction, FOMC meeting, US June trade balance, US Mitsubishi weekly store sales, US Johnson Redbook sales, US Treasury announces size of short-term T-bills, FOMC meeting, API weekly oil supply statistics, Bundesbank calls for repo bids.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Dunedin Income Growth, EV Fac, Marley, Mersey Docks & Harbour, Richardson, Westgarth, TR High Income Trust, Whatman. Finals: News Corporation. Economic statistics: UK July retail sales, US import/export price indices, US Treasury July budget report, US Kansas City Fed Survey, US July Budget statement, US Treasury announces size of two-year, five-year note auctions, Bundesbank awarding repos.

THURSDAY

Interims: Dawson Group, Evans Halshaw, Goldsmiths Gp, Rentokil Gp. Finals: News International. Economic statistics: UK Q2 output, income and expenditure, Bundesbank Council meeting, US weekly jobless claims.

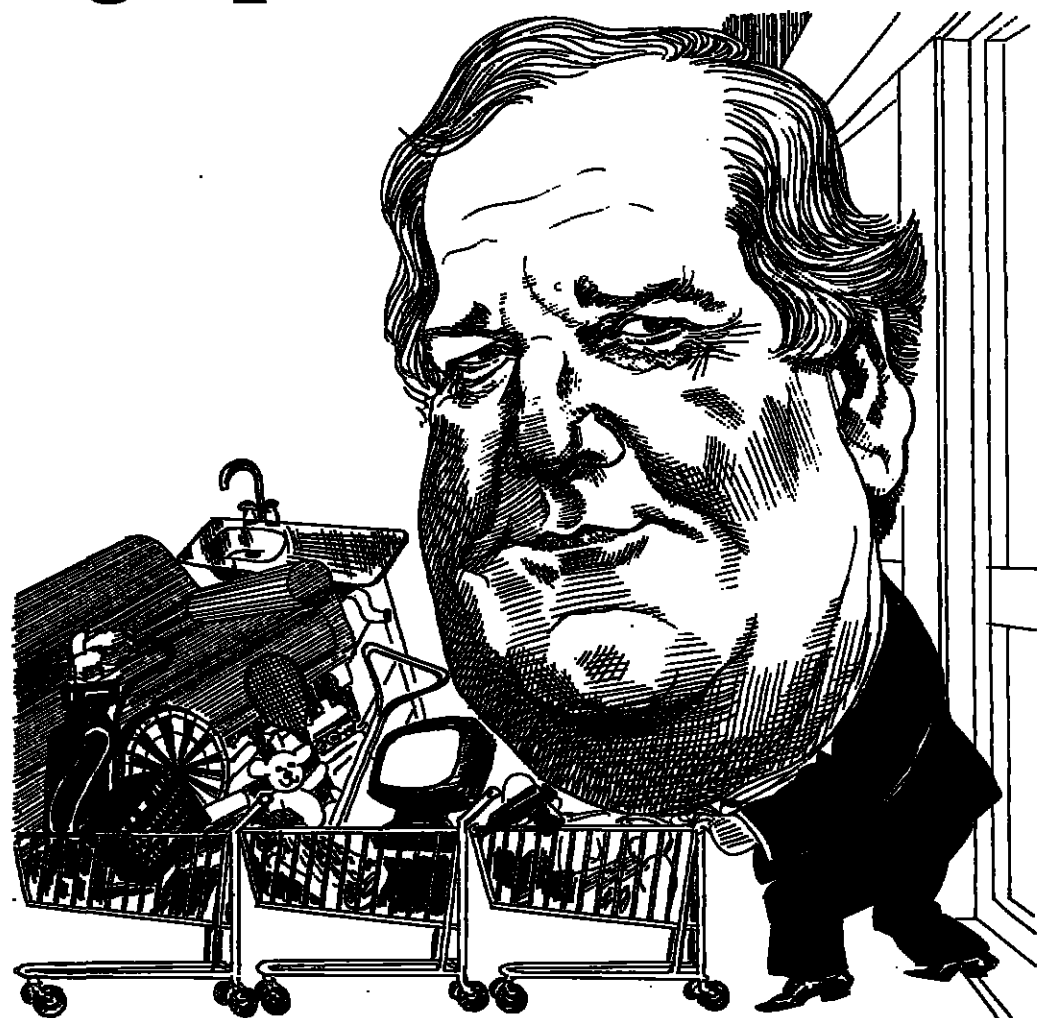
FRIDAY

Interims: Mollat, Monument Oil & Gas. Finals: none scheduled. Economic statistics: French July final consumer prices index, UK August CBI monthly trends, UK July motor vehicle production, UK Q2 provisional capital expenditure, Q2 provisional stocks, US July durable goods orders.

COMPANIES

CLARE STEWART

Charging up to the Christmas rush



Stocking up good results: Argos's Mike Smith will deliver more for investors

ARGOS: The bank holiday may be looming, but it is the Christmas lights that are within twinkling distance for the catalogue retailer. First-half pre-tax profits out today are forecast in the range of £25 million to £28 million, compared with £21.8 million last year.

The City is expecting an upbeat report on sales and a rosy picture on consumer spending from Mike Smith, chief executive. At its annual meeting in May, Argos reported a 17 per cent sales rise in sales for the first four months of the year, with the like-for-like figures more than 9 per cent ahead.

The second half matters more. A strong run topped off with a good Christmas could boost full-year profits by a quarter to about £143 million. An interim net dividend of 5p is likely, up from 4.5p last time.

ORANGE: Investors in the mobile phone group will be looking for good news on subscriber levels when it reports tomorrow. These will be its first interim figures since coming to the market. Losses at the half year are expected to come in at about £130 million, but more encouraging news on the number of people signing up to the network could help bolster the share price.

The shares have fallen back from a 205p flotation price in March to about 185p. Analysts are looking for new subscribers in 1996 to total 400,000, with about half that number signing up in the first six months.

There was no interim figure reported last year, but the full-year loss was £175 million pre-tax. No dividend is expected at this half year as the group continues to develop its network.

BSKYB: Renegotiation of the Premiership football contract and a move into the European pay-TV market has kept shares in BSKYB, the satellite broadcaster, bubbling.

More positive news is expected by the City when the group reports year-end figures tomorrow. Pre-tax profits for the year to June are expected by analysts to

leap ahead to £255 million, a rise of 56 per cent, on turnover 28 per cent ahead to almost £1 billion. Analysts also predict a strong dividend increase, from 2.5p to 6p, from BSKYB, where News International, publisher of *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake.

MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR COMPANY: The continuing labour dispute at Mersey Docks will again be in the spotlight when the company announces its interim figures on Wednesday. The return of ACL

the container group, to Liverpool in July, a month after its original decision to switch to Thamesport, helped Mersey shares to recover some lost ground. But after nearly a year, the dockers' dispute continues to have an impact on the port's growth. Pre-tax profits of £18 million, up from £16.8 million last year are expected, with the dividend raised by 10 per cent to 4p.

MARLEY: The building materials group reports half-year figures on Wednesday. Analysts are

RENTOKIL GROUP: Fresh from tending 20,000 tropical plants at the Olympic Games, the burgeoning pest control to business services group reports interim figures on Thursday.

The health of the plants in Atlanta is likely to be of less concern to the City than Rentokil's progress in getting to grips with BET, which it acquired after a fierce £2 billion bid battle earlier this year. Pre-tax profits of £138 million, up 39 per cent are expected, helped by a strong contribution from former BET businesses. However, underlying profits may show a less buoyant picture, reflecting slower sales growth in the UK and difficulties in the US and Europe. A dividend of 1.5p is forecast, up from 1.2p.

GOLDSMITHS GROUP: News of strong watch and jewellery sales is expected from the retailer on Thursday. Half-time profits are set to come in at about £50,000 although with the all-important Christmas trading period to come, full-year profits estimates have been upgraded to about £5.7 million.

In addition to solid sales growth, news is expected on a number of initiatives. These include a link with Norwich Union to replace lost or stolen items covered by the insurer's policies and a store card now being tried out in the group's shops.

DAWSON GROUP: Flat demand and stiff competition are likely to flatten interim profits at the truck and bus rental business. Pre-tax profits, due on Thursday for the six months to June, are set to slide nearly 50 per cent lower to £2.75 million, reflecting the company's continued dependence on the troubled trucks market.

Dawson group has diversified into new areas and the outlook for divisions such as cold store transport, buses and coaches looks promising. The dividend is forecast to be held at 2p and analysts are upbeat about profits recovery from 1997, which should be helped by Dawson's strong balance sheet and by economic recovery finally reaching the group's markets.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Focus on US and Germany

THE spotlight this week will be beyond British shores, with key meetings scheduled for both the US Federal Reserve and the Bundesbank to discuss interest rates.

The financial markets believe that the Federal Open Market Committee, which meets on Tuesday and Wednesday, will leave US rates unchanged. Some signs of slowing economic momentum in the third quarter and more evidence of subdued inflationary pressures convinces most analysts that the Fed will stay its hand.

There is much more uncertainty about the prospect for German rates when the Bundesbank's policy-making council meets on Thursday. A number of senior Bundesbank officials hinted last week that they were concerned about the sustainability of economic recovery in Germany, that the strong mark was not comfortable and that expectations of a further drop in M3 money supply might leave the way open for a cut in the key money-market repurchase rate.

Both M3 figures and a July business sentiment survey from the Ifo economic institute are due to be published this week, most likely before the Bundesbank meeting. A Reuters poll of forecasts shows an average forecast for July M3 of 8.8 per cent annualised growth, down from 9.6 per cent in June. The Ifo survey is expected to show a small improvement in sentiment.

In Britain, the focus is likely to be July retail sales on Wednesday. According to a consensus of market forecasts by MMS International, sales are expected to have grown by 0.4 per cent, after jumping by 1.3 per cent in June. Other figures include the release tomorrow of July figures for M4 money supply, and bank and building society lending. On Thursday, the Confederation of British Industry releases its monthly trends survey, coinciding with revised figures for second quarter gross domestic product. The quarter's growth is expected to be unrevised at 0.4 per cent.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIMES

The Sunday Times: Bay Bank Organisation, UniChem, Stanley Leisure, Hold Moorfield, British Data Management. The Sunday Telegraph: Bay Argos, British Aerospace, Wiggins Group, Salefield, Pace Micro Technology. The Observer: Bay BAT Industries, General Accident. The Independent on Sunday: Bay BAT Industries, Manganese Bronze, Thorn EMI. The Mail on Sunday: Bay Logica, Waste Resources, Independent Radio Group, Salfire, Glaxo Wellcome.

Chairman may go as Hill Samuel integrates

BY JON ASHWORTH

MORE redundancies are expected at Hill Samuel, the merchant banking arm of Lloyds TSB, which is being integrated into the bank's mainstream operations.

John Slater, chairman, and John Macgregor, deputy chairman, are among about 150 employees expected to go. A further 400 staff are likely to lose their jobs by the year-end. Hill Samuel's asset manage-

ment, asset finance, and private banking arms have been integrated. The corporate finance arm went to Close Brothers and project finance team to Charterhouse.

Hill Samuel was bought by TSB for £777 million in 1987, but incurred a £422 million loss after rash lending and had to restructure. It returned to profit, but lost its role after the Lloyds-TSB merger.

Investors await first valuation details on Hanson demerger

BY CLARE STEWART

HANSON, the favourite conglomerate of yesterday, will present a sceptical investment community with details of the first half of its long-awaited demerger this week.

Listing details on Millennium Chemicals and Imperial Tobacco are expected on Friday, to launch flotations due to take place on October 1.

Since announcing its plans at the start of the year to split four ways into chemicals, tobacco, energy and building materials, the drip feed of data from Hanson has built up the corporate picture on each division.

This week's information sent out to shareholders will, however, bring the picture into sharper focus, with details on the expected market value and on the cost of the demerger exercise, which could be up to £100 million.

Last week third-quarter figures showed a bigger than expected fall in profits from Hanson's US chemicals business.

These prompted analysts to re-jig their forecasts ahead of the demerger. Nigel Utley, at Greig Middleton, has cut his valuation for Millennium Chemicals to about £1.85 billion while expecting profits of £900 million this year.

Investor interest in the group will focus on the impact of higher prices being achieved at Quantum Chemical, which makes specialty polymer chemicals as well as on recovery at SCM, which makes titanium dioxide.

Millennium will have a US listing, which is likely to limit its practical appeal to UK investors.

The chemicals group comes with about £1.3 billion of debt. It also has, in effect, an electric fence around it to keep opportunistic predators at bay during the demerger process, though not necessarily at a later date. "It is purely to prevent someone buying the company on the cheap," Chris-

topher Collins, deputy chairman of Hanson, said.

Greater interest from UK investors is expected for Imperial Tobacco, which will be quoted in London. A valuation of about £2.58 billion is expected for the group which owns top-selling cigarette brands such as Superkings, Embassy and Lambert & Butler, and has about 38 per cent of the UK market. Imperial's share of the Hanson debt is £1.05 billion.

With no sales into the US, the group is exposed to fewer tobacco litigation risks. Investors will also be attracted by the promise of an attractive yield, strong cashflow and the possibility of a bid for the business in the future.

After Millennium and Imperial have flown the Hanson nest, the energy division comprising Eastern Electricity and the Peabody mining business will be preparing itself for takeoff in early 1997.



Best foot forward: John David Sports, the JD leisurewear retailer, is to seek a full Stock Exchange listing in the autumn that could value it at more than £70 million. Named after John Wardle, chairman, left, and David Makin, chief executive, it has grown from one sports shop, opened in Bury, Lancashire, in 1981, to a chain of 57. Success came by switching from sports goods to fashion footwear. In the year to March 31, pre-tax profits rose from £4.4 million to £6.7 million on sales up from £37 million to £56 million. BZW is adviser.

BSkyB steps up drive for BBC link

BY ERIC REGULY

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, is doubling its efforts to form a pay-TV joint venture with the BBC after sensing that Flextech, the cable and satellite programmer, may have taken the lead in the talks.

Media analysts believe that BSKYB, 40 per cent owned by News International, publisher of *The Times*, has emphasised that it can guarantee the BBC the broadest audience. BSKYB, the country's only direct-to-home broadcaster, has 5.5 million subscribers and plans to launch as many as 200 digital channels by the end of 1997. Moreover, BSKYB could predict what revenue the BBC could receive from the new channels with the "pence-per-subscriber" formula.

Flextech, satellite TV experts said, would have trouble giving such assurances because of its "middleman" status. Flextech can finance development of the channels and package them, but would have to negotiate with BSKYB to get them on BSKYB's multichannel packages. Otherwise, Flextech would have to lease its own satellite transponder space.

Flextech, having negotiated with BBC Worldwide, the BBC's commercial arm, hopes to strike a deal in the next three months. The BBC's new satellite channels would be devoted to subjects such as natural history, arts and drama.

Flextech seems to have two advantages, observers say. Firstly, Tele-Communications Inc., its half owner and America's biggest cable company, with about 15 million subscribers, could provide US coverage for some of the new BBC channels. Flextech, observers said, may also be more "politically acceptable" because it does not have as big a share of the media market as BSKYB and News International.

Attractions in being overweight

THE global village has arrived. A simple statistical model shows that ten-year UK gilt-edged yields are strongly influenced by two key factors — UK short rates and world bond yields — and that they are twice as sensitive to world yields as to UK short rates. Since the opportunity for further UK rate cuts is all but over and, absent some crisis, Kenneth Clarke is not about to raise them, world markets will drive gilts for the rest of the year.

The good news is that the outlook for the world's largest market has turned positive. Already there are signs that US growth is moderating after a strong first half, and there is little to stimulate the economy. Real short rates are only half a percentage point below last year's average; the structural budget deficit has declined by 0.5 per cent of GDP in two years; the dollar has gained some 9 per cent in real terms over the past 15 months; and real oil prices rose by nearly 30 per cent between July 1995 and July 1996. Real GDP growth could slow from 2.6 per cent year on year in the second quarter of 1996 to say 1½ per cent by mid-1997.

Real yields in the US are closely linked with real growth. Although inflation may edge up, in spite of slower growth, the balance of forces

suggest lower US bond yields ahead. The prospects are not so rosy for bonds. Growth should continue to pick up, and there is limited scope for lower German inflation and short rates. However, where Treasuries lead, bonds should follow, albeit unenthusiastically. The bad news is that the gilt-edged market tends to follow bonds more closely than US Treasuries. Over the past three years the correlation has been 77 per cent with bonds and 56 per cent with Treasuries. Thus, world yields may move lower, dragging gilt yields with them. However, bonds will probably underperform Treasuries and gilts underperform bonds. So far so bad. But, relative to the rest of Europe, gilts should be one of the better performers. There are three reasons.

First, some budget concerns related to European monetary union. European growth, though picking up, remains sluggish and is incompatible with the fiscal tightening necessary to meet the 1997 deficit goals of most European countries. Each of the big four European markets is in for a difficult budget ride. In Germany, local governments have cautioned that they

are on the brink of financial collapse; France, trying to push through further expenditure cuts, is swimming against an undercurrent of social tension; Italy's coalition Government is straining under the weight of continued austerity and deteriorating growth prospects; and in Spain the discovery of a 721 billion peseta hole in government finances has set back the Government's assault on the deficit.

As we move further into the Budget season, these tensions will mount. Uncertainty surrounding the euro will grow and its credibility will come under renewed scrutiny. In such an environment, safe haven considerations will support bonds, but gilts should also benefit as investors diversify into calmer UK waters.

Second, some currency considerations. In the past year a weakening mark has supported European convergence. But, as the US economy slows and German growth comes on stream, changing interest rate expectations are likely to push the mark higher. This will drive a further wedge between German and other continental yields. Having missed the convergence train in the first half of the year, gilts are well

placed to benefit from any setback. Finally, gilts are cheap on standard valuations. In the year to date, the local currency return on gilts has been a meagre 2.6 per cent, making them the worst-performing European market in the JP Morgan global bond index. Further underperformance is only likely to add to gilts' relative attractiveness. Real yields, in stark contrast to most other European markets, are also above their average of the past ten years; on such valuations, Italian and French bonds look particularly stretched. And the correlation between short-term and long-term interest rates since 1987, over a full business cycle, suggests that gilts are better value than most European alternatives.

The performance of gilts may not match that of US Treasuries or German bonds in the second half of the year. But compared with most other European markets, gilts should do well. To maximise returns while spreading risk, there is still a good case for overweighting portfolios towards gilts in the months ahead.

DICK HOWARD AND ADRIAN OWENS
Julius Baer Investments Ltd

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

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Shareholders

Thorn plans expansion after split

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

THORN, which is due to start trading as a separate company on the Stock Exchange when Thorn-EMI demerges this morning, is planning a large expansion of its Crazy George's rental chain in the UK and will open its first branch in France later this year.

Crazy George's rents electrical and household goods, including furniture, by the week to families with an average annual income of £9,000. Premium rates are charged because there is no minimum rental period.

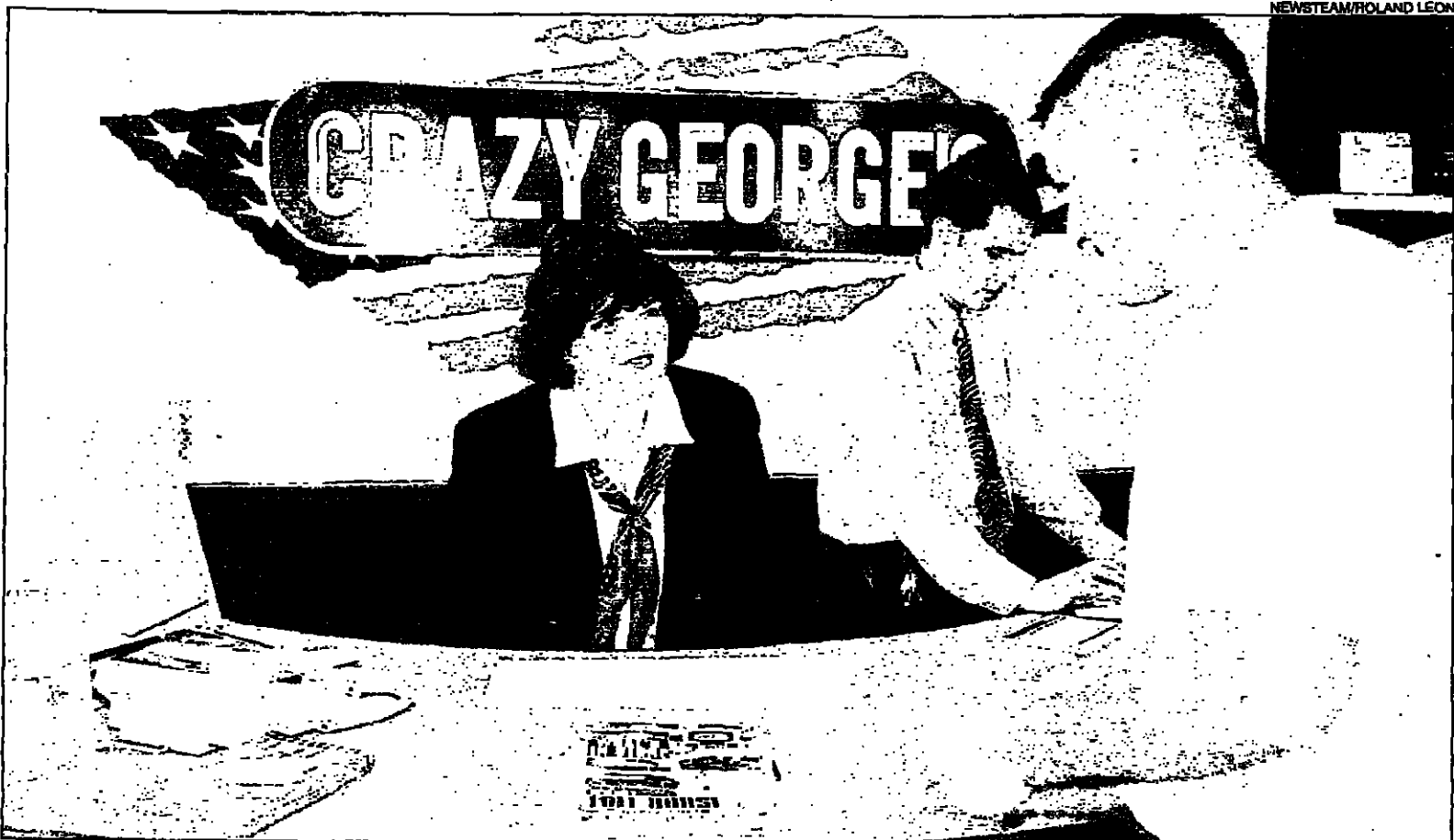
Thorn opened the first branch of the American-style Crazy George's in April 1994 and it now has more than 44 stores, concentrated in the North of England. It hopes to expand at a rate of 30 to 50 branches a year, until it has 275 stores in the UK. It is to open its first branch in France, at Bobigny, north of Paris, later this year, according to Mike Metcalf, chief executive of Thorn. He then hopes to expand into Spain, Germany and the Benelux countries.

Analysts are expecting Thorn shares to open at between 390p and 420p, valuing the company at about £1.5 billion. It will rank as the fifth or sixth largest quoted non-food retailer. Analysts estimate the company will invest about £800 million to £900 million — the bulk of it on goods to rent — over the next two years.

Thorn's other main UK operation is Radio Rentals. EMI shares are predicted to start trading at between £13.80 and £14.20 a share and analysts say the price could still move forward in coming months on the back of takeover rumours. Speculation

that an independent EMI would quickly fall victim to a takeover have circulated for more than a year. Seagram, the Canadian drinks and media company that owns MCA, has been tipped as the most likely bidder.

But Sir Colin Southgate, who is chairman of both companies, played down bid speculation last week, saying that he had not received an approach from a rival company in the past year. Some observers also believe that the speculation has already pushed the share price too high for a takeover offer. Shares in Thorn EMI have climbed from under £10 to Friday's close of £18.33p in the past 18 months.



The Crazy George's name, best known in the North of England, will soon be found in France as Thorn prepares for growth on the Continent

Looser company controls lead to big leap in fraud

By JON ASHWORTH

FRAUD in Britain has taken a big leap because layers of middle-management have been stripped out, according to a leading accountant.

Adam Bates, fraud investigation partner at KPMG, said that flatter management structures introduced in the wake of the recession had removed many important controls.

Never taking a holiday is one of the danger signs, according to Mr Bates, who says fraudsters need to be around constantly to cover their tracks. Staff who work evenings and weekends with no

apparent result are also worthy of suspicion. Employees who lead extravagant lifestyles, or are known to have financial problems, are among other prime candidates, according to a list of warning signs compiled by KPMG.

Frauds are often committed when an office or division is facing closure, or when an employee has repeatedly been passed over for promotion.

Suspensions also point to staff who always appear to generate good results when others are struggling to meet targets. There is also a danger in

suppliers who heap inappropriately generous gifts or hospitality on staff. This may indicate the payment of large sums to influence the granting of contracts.

Lastly, come those superiors who use anger and sarcasm to bully staff into submission. They may attempt to obstruct investigators by claiming that transactions are part of a secret and sensitive scheme known only to a few in the company.

KPMG reckons that more than two thirds of large-scale fraud is committed by, or with, the complicity of employees.

Thistle checks in for £1.5bn October float

THISTLE HOTELS, Britain's second largest hotel group, is expected to confirm that it is coming to the market in a flotation valued at up to £1.5 billion (Jon Ashworth writes).

The group, controlled by Brierley Investments of New Zealand, and formerly known as Mount Charlotte Hotels, is likely to seek a listing in October. Robert Peel, Thistle's chief executive, is expected to give details when he unveils the latest interim results this week. The decision to float reflects the continuing recovery of the UK hotel industry.

DBS to leave AIM for main market

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

DBS Management, a network for independent financial advisers, will next month become the first company to move from the Alternative Investment Market to a full stock market quote.

DBS was floated on the AIM in July last year with the shares priced at 145p. They have since soared to 372p, valuing the company at nearly £30 million.

Ken Davy, executive chairman, said that part of the reason for the move was that the company was treated for tax purposes as a financial services company and consequently had not received any

of the tax benefits available to AIM companies.

Mr Davy said that, because DBS was not intending to raise any more capital, the move to the main market would cost about £400,000.

He said: "The AIM flotation has been successful in raising the company's profile. But we believe a main market quote would raise it further and help us to continue our growth."

Mr Davy has seen his 25 per cent stake in the company rise in value to nearly £7.5 million. DBS provides insurance and mortgage lending as well as training support to IFAs.

Burns on board at QPR

Sir Terence Burns, permanent secretary at the Treasury, is to become a director of Queens Park Rangers, the newly demoted Nationwide League first division football club.

He has been a season ticket holder of the West London club for 20 years and was at Manchester University with Chris Wright, who recently bought QPR and is putting it together with Wasps rugby union club.

Sir Terence will be non-executive, so there is no likelihood of the team being cut back to ten men.

Logica wins £3.5m deal

Logica, the IT outsourcing specialist, has secured a £3.5 million deal with Airport Coordination Ltd taking responsibility for its IT systems and staff. The deal is Logica's third in the aviation sector this year.

It already manages the Civil Aviation Authority's research operations, and runs the computers for the on-route air traffic control centre in Hampshire. It will be told later this year whether it has succeeded in its bid for the IT systems of the new "Oceanic" air traffic control centre, which is being set up to control all air movements in the North Atlantic area.

German plea

Germany's construction industry is calling for higher public infrastructure investment. Otherwise it forecasts 6,000 insolvencies this year and 100,000 more job losses. Oskar Franz, management board chairman of Strabag Bau, the construction group, and head of the construction industry association, said: "A rich country like Germany must be able to afford these projects."

Turbulent Firecrest nurtures reputation

FIRECREST, one of the Alternative Investment Market's least predictable stocks, lived up to its reputation as the wild card of the junior exchange last week with the resignation of its second nominated adviser, Singer & Friedlander.

Merrill Lynch has been tipped as a candidate for the job, but City sources say that Firecrest's turbulent history with its past advisers has made few firms willing to accept its hand this time. Its shares fluctuated wildly during the week, finishing 2p easier at 58p.

Capital & Western, the property group, is bowing out of the market, having decided to become a property company. In AIM's first internal takeover, Capital and Western has bought Ballynary, an AIM-listed rival, and Global Internet, the technology group.

After a merger, the group will return to AIM late next month as the Internet Tech-

nology Group. Its shares will be placed at 20p a share, against Capital & Western's current share price of 2 1/2p.

This week's new issues include Gabriel Trust, which is joining the growing number of AIM-listed AIM specialists. A mini venture capital group, it invests sums of about £250,000 in small companies that are planning to join AIM within a year, then sells its stake when they join.

Trading starts at 10p on Wednesday, valuing the company at £5.7 million.

British Bloodstock, which trades racehorses on behalf of clients, has announced its intention to move to AIM. Last year it sold Generous, the 1991 Derby winner, to a Japanese buyer for £9 million. It will join in a direct transfer, raising no new money.

Overall, trading continued to gather pace over the week, with the FT-SE AIM index rising from 1060.00 to 1070.60.

FRASER NELSON

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.5482 (-0.0014)
German mark 2.3124 (+0.0216)
Exchange index 85.0 (+0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2824.5 (+28.2)
FT-SE 100 3872.9 (+62.2)
New York Dow Jones 5689.45 (+8.14)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 20834.00 (+282.95)

North Flinders Mines Shareholders

On 7 August 1996 Normandy Mining Limited (ACN 009 295 765) forwarded a takeover offer dated 7 August 1996 to shareholders of North Flinders Mines Limited (ACN 007 688 093) to purchase their shares.

The offer was accompanied by a Part A Statement.

The offer will close at 5.30pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time) on 9 September 1996 (subject to any extension).

If you are a North Flinders shareholder and have not received Normandy's offer documents, please call Normandy immediately on freecall 0500 893 634

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1996 High	Low	Mid cap (million)	Price pence	Wtdy +/-	Ytd %	P/E
148	132	14.60 AFA Systems	146	- 2	...	...
134	109	18.20 AMCO Corp	114	+ 2	5.5	16.0
79	67	16.80 AND Int'l Pkg	79	+ 7	...	47.3
58	18	5.70 Absorb Recruit	43	...	...	...
161	115	24.00 Achre Imaging	131	...	...	...
210	123	29.50 A de Gruyck	200	...	3.8	15.6
204	174	18.30 African Gold	174	- 2	...	39.7
210	112	7.00 Albemarle & Bd	112	...	...	...
58	33	7.95 Ailzyme	46	- 4	...	...
24	12	8.86 Alpha Omilon	12	...	4.8	...
480	380	46.00 Ann St Brewery	480	...	12.9	...
285	885	5.84 Ann St Cr Pt	885	...	8.2	...
121	48	55.50 Antowor	76	+ 26	...	...
9	3	1.89 Anon Props	8	...	...	...
81	33	38.80 Ashurst	48	+ 8	...	...
141	116	22.50 Asti Control	140	...	...	...
63	55	1.08 Athletey Trust	60	...	...	...
145	123	44.40 BATM Adv Comm	143	+ 10	...	...
7	5	7.72 Ballymore	6	...	44.1	...
46	38	12.70 Balcen Health	38	...	...	...
150	140	0.99 Bonness Less	145	...	3.9	9.3
70	41	0.34 Bown Less Cr Pt	70	...	...	...
509	240	56.70 Brockton	473	...	1.9	...
125	116	13.30 CA Courts Hldgs	125	...	11.8	...
130	116	1.04 CCI Hldgs	130	...	7.2	...
110	110	0.72 CCI Founder Sns	110	...	...	...
213	95	0.72 CCI Founder Sns	165	- 5	1.8	13.6
75	55	7.76 Caledonian Tst	65	...	7.9	...
3	2	2.30 Capital & Wan	2	...	...	...
98	68	13.90 Cardstock	68	...	0.7	19.5
108	91	12.10 Cardstock Ship	95	- 5	...	...
72	56	3.06 Cassidy Bros	56	- 2	6.7	...
48	41	2.09 Cavendish W	41	...	1.8	...
21	16	6.99 Celadon Group	21	...	...	...
5235	6550	79.70 Celtic	6275	...	...	...
124	109	15.90 CI Comm(IV)	118	...	2.8	...
86	61	8.29 CI Comm(IV)	61	...	...	...
100	53	120.00 Chelsea Village	93	+ 3	...	...
148	120	10.10 Chemical Design	148	...	...	...
185	173	19.70 Circle Comm	181	+ 5	5.2	11.9
140	110	3.20 Clon	140	...	...	...
110	110	0.99 Clon Homes	110	...	63.6	...
35	28	13.90 ClonPartners	33	...	...	...
510	500	12.00 Com de Pti Fin	500	...	...	...
19	15	0.84 Com de Pti Fin	19	...	...	...
100	100	0.25 Com Tech A Pti	100	...	...	...
100	100	0.20 Com Tech B Pti	100	...	...	...
125	125	0.84 Com Tech Rel Pti	125	...	...	...
225	225	0.27 Com Tech Rel Pti	225	...	...	...
44	37	8.80 Constair Tst	40	...	5.0	10.0
86	58	15.70 Country Edns	85	...	2.0	16.4
83	68	2.49 Crilly Sales Pl	68	...	8.8	...
108	67	22.00 Crilly Sales Pl	67	...	...	...
63	43	22.60 Cron Products	50	+ 1	...	11.0
377	152	26.00 DCS Management	372	+ 2	4.0	11.0
36	32	3.30 David Glass	32	...	10.2	8.3
1700	660	89.40 Dawson Group	1600	- 25	2.5	14.7
17	11	5.17 Dean Corp	12	...	2.1	...
4	4	5.17 Dean Corp	4	...	...	...
375	305	35.40 Dicom	345	+ 10	...	79.7
111	78	15.40 Digital Avntrn	105	- 5	...	...
77	60	13.10 Dmabell	60	...	...	...
143	61	3.07 Drings	61	...	...	...
137	48	8.84 Easynet	62	+ 3	...	...
218	148	41.60 Elec Retail Sys	198	...	...	...
200	80	55.50 Electrophonics	85	- 2	...	...
116	61	21.70 Elec Multimedia	61	...	...	...
125	120	5.62 Euro Sales Pti	125	...	...	...
475	325	Farake	445	...	...	...
136	108	41.30 Fibernet	111	...	...	...
65	58	2.90 Fielders	58	...	...	...
260	75	5.77 Finl Pubs	245	...	...	24.8
183	168	13.60 Forecast	168	...	...	...
245	188	5.38 Floristics	210	...	1.5	...
343	253	8.03 Floral St	313	+ 20	0.4	14.2
199	136	16.10 Formascan	180	...	1.8	20.8
353	14	115.70 Fosaglas	136	...	...	...
143	93	8.16 Foxing Homes	136	+ 3	2.3	12.0
63	61	19.00 Gail Thompson Env	61	...	6.7	...
129	81	35.70 Gander Hldgs	124	...	...	...
21	16	27.20 Gold Mines Sandra	21	...	...	...
112	8	5.89 Gold Mines Sand Wts	11	...	...	...
22	6	1.80 Greenhills	6	- 3	...	...
150	145	33.40 Gulton	148	...	3.4	12.8
202	169	22.60 HIT Eder	202	+ 3	...	65.5
41	18	2.04 Hanson	20	...	5.9	10.7
68	53	2.56 Hal Pti	50	...	...	...
65	50	1.27 Hercules Prep	50	...	...	...
275	155	6.37 Heavneer A	275	...	2.6	17.0
255	180	10.70 Heavneer A	245	...	2.9	15.1
138	120	153.90 Hicco	125	- 3	2.5	...
80	65	0.82 Hurlingham	70	...	0.4	...
297	190	31.20 ICSI Corp	295	+ 5	...	...
280	175	3.82 IES Warrants	185	- 5	...	...
96	65	18.60 Ind Bnt Health	73	- 1	...	...
134	105	12.70 Indpt Radio	127	...	...	...
88	63	11.40 Inner Workings	68	...	...	...
578	503	15.70 Intelligent Env	578	+ 10	3.2	11.7
160	108	36.70 JOC Int	150	+ 4	...	...
103	83	3.99 Jasmun	98	- 2	...	11.5
320	280	21.50 Jennings Bros	282	...	2.7	21.0
74	48	9.86 Jordec	61	...	11.9	...
8	2	5.70 Just Group	8	...	...	...
3	2	0.36 Just Group Wts	2	...	...	...

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 38

ASILUS

(b) A member of a genus of flies belonging to the order Diptera, family Asilidae: a hornet-fly, hawk-fly, or robber-fly. From the Latin *asilus* a gad-fly. "The great, smooth, black and red Indian asilus."

GALJOEN

(a) The sea-fish *Coracinus capensis* (family Coracinidae); also several related fish of that family. Afrikaans from the Dutch word for a galloon. "In fine weather many a galjoen is landed on those rocks."

DATO

(c) A land-owner or chief in northern Borneo, the Philippine Islands, and some adjacent areas. Malay *datu* a ruler. Tagalog *datu* ruling head of a clan. "The Resident and four Datos were lined up there to greet him."

CHENA

(a) A form of shifting cultivation in Sri Lanka. Also, the shrubby vegetation produced by such cultivation or a piece of land used for this. The Sinhalese *chena*. "Huk glades, those graveyards of once magnificent forests felled for chenas."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Bc3 creates insurmountable problems for White, e.g. 2 Bxc2 Bx3 3 Ke5 Rd5 mate

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Five babies not offered a multiple choice

A premonition or a slice of luck meant that I did not review a documentary about the Dionne quintuplets at the first attempt to show it on July 24. In television, things are usually all right on the night but that night horrible transmission problems afflicted the film.

Such was the public outcry that *Inside Story: Miracle Babies* was rescheduled and shown last night on BBC2. Bad luck has turned into perfect timing: between the original date and now there has arisen the controversy over Mandy Allwood, who is expecting octuplets.

As of today, octuplets have never survived, anywhere in the world. But as of May 28, 1934, not had quintuplets. All five of the identical Dionne girls, born that day to a farm wife in Ontario, survived into adulthood and three are still alive. There is a salutary story.

They were effectively taken over at birth by the family doctor, a well-meaning man. This was the Great Depression, yet money was found to build a special hospital for the Dionnes in their home town. Their doctor feared infection but their isolation was to make them into a freak show.

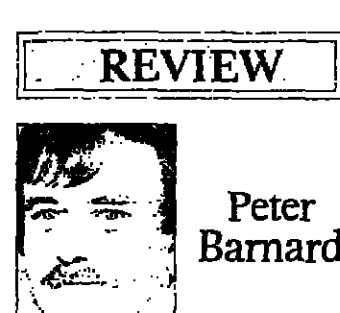
By the age of two, the Dionnes were earning £200,000 a year in sponsorship deals from clothes to toys. So enormous was the public interest that new roads were built into the area. The public was kept at a distance and a local store rented out binoculars.

In the first few years of the girls' cloistered lives, three million, yes, three million people from all over the world visited Cecile, Annette, Yvonne, Emily and Marie. An observatory was built close to the hospital: people filed in, spent a few minutes staring at the girls and filed out. By the time they were nine years old, the girls had been outside their compound just three times.

Where, in all this, were the parents? They were given "occasional access" to the "discipline of the doctor". Cecile, speaking now, in halting tones, says: "We didn't know our mother. We couldn't miss her because we didn't know her. It was not normal. We didn't have any preparation to contact the world. The things we missed were important: love, happiness, a family."

The Dionnes were, at one point, made wards of the Ontario government. Later, in their teens, the girls rejoined their parents and siblings in a huge house built from the proceeds of £31 million given by the Ontario government. But it was a disaster: the five were as strangers to their family.

Before that, when the girls were aged 12, a special school was created, run by nuns. There were 14 pupils: the quintuplets plus nine "hand-



picked" girls. This was hardly a natural life, but it was better than what had gone before.

Two of the quintuplets are dead. Emily died aged 20 after an epileptic fit and Marie was found dead in her flat, aged 30, after years of serious drinking problems. Of the survivors, Cecile and Annette married the first men they met and are now divorced. Yvonne, the most reticent of a reclusive trio, never

married. All three now live together. They have very little money.

They are suing the Ontario government for £10 million, alleging that Ontario "exploited them as children". I make no comment about that, or indeed about anything else. The strength of this outstanding documentary was that it told the story unemotionally. In this matter, conclusions are redundant, judgments pointless. But of lessons there are plenty.

The rest of the weekend television paid by comparison, but I must mention *Dancing in the Street* (BBC2, Saturday), the ten-part history of rock 'n' roll which ended on Saturday night with a trip through the 1980s developments of hip-hop and rap.

This has been a magnificent series, a genuinely definitive history of the genre produced by Hugh Thomson of the BBC's features department in Bristol. The timing marks 40 years of rock, if you ac-

cept the 1956 ascent to the top by Elvis Presley as rock's launchpad.

There have been nuggets throughout. On Saturday, we learnt that Madonna's first single was put out without her picture because the record company hoped people might think she was black. Conversely, when MTV, the 24-hour rock video station, was launched in the early 1980s it refused to feature black singers. It relented only when a record company threatened to withhold other singers unless MTV accepted a Michael Jackson video (Jackson was black, then).

er, dancing in the street. The other weekend notable was a gimmicky *Brainstorming* (Channel 4, Sunday) in which the quirky actor-performer Ken Campbell explored the differing perceptions of science and philosophy on the issue of artificial intelligence.

The Australian philosopher Frank Jackson did not appear, but was credited with the best illustration of why a computer can never be like a human being: because no computer can develop true awareness. Jackson invented Mary, a woman dressed in black and white who spends her entire life in a black and white room becoming an expert on the physical basis of colour vision.

Mary, like a computer, may understand red, but she cannot have an awareness of what it is like to see the colour red. Philosophy 1. Science 0. Game over. Close the door on your way out, Mr Computer Buff.

REVIEW

Peter Barnard

CHOICE

Star Trek: The Cage (BBC2, 8.25pm)
What can potential producers have made of this pilot episode? It's being shown again to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Gene Roddenberry's 1960s creation (another programme tomorrow) and we all know what a cult that became. But pre-Spielberg and pre-Lucas there just wasn't the expertise for special effects, nor, one suspects, the budget. And this unintentionally hilarious first story gets little help from the pock-faced Jeffrey Hunter — captain of the *Starship Enterprise* and soon to be replaced by the marginally less wooden William Shatner. Still, Trekkies will love it. Here, in embryo, are typical features of later Trek: the moral philosophy — even among aliens — the nod to other historical times (a Crusader castle and a touch of Vlad the Impaler), and, comfortably, Mr Spock (Leonard Nimoy) looking as characteristically bemused as ever.

If I Were Prime Minister: Germaine Greer (Channel 4, 8.40pm)
Germaine Greer rounds off the series with, one must say, her witty tongue in cheek. Can she really believe that prisons should be replaced by darning the shaved heads of minor criminals and facially branding the major ones (e.g. "R" for rapist)? The Howard League for Penal Reform puts up a spirited defence against this one. But perhaps she is on firmer ground by wanting to abolish "humiliating benefits" and "pay people for whatever they do". And, that instead of welfare, we should all get a single lump sum at the age of 18. But what about vasectomies for all young males — after they have stored their sperm until they are mature enough to use it properly? Greer sees "the complete collapse of all known structures" as a prerequisite for her premiership.

6.00am Open University: Work and Energy (3640074) 6.25 *A Europe of the Regions* (4337364) 7.15 *See Hear Breakfast News* (Ceefax) (6978890)

7.30 The Family Ness (8121093) 7.35 *Johnson and Friends* (3012744) 7.45 *Leslie* (1700451) 8.10 *The Smurfs* (5311074) 8.35 *To Me... You* (8135857) 9.05 *Spielmann* (3275558) 9.25 *Smart* (4771277) 9.50 *Puppydog Tales* (3929242)

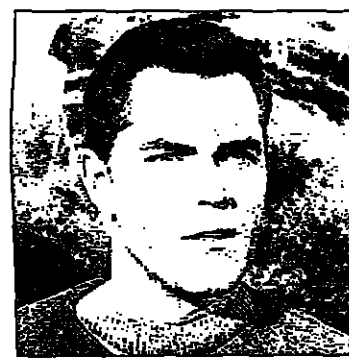
10.00 Playdays (7039722) 10.25 *Man in a Suitcase* (Ceefax) (2638242) 11.15 *The Addams Family* (Ceefax) (8449258) 11.40 *The Phil Silvers Show* (6097123) 12.05pm *Danger* (Ceefax) (6759432) 12.30 *Postcards from Down Under* (47277) 1.00 *Model Millie* (4584827) 1.15 *A-Z of Food* (24830074) 1.25 *Menus and Music* (45754884)

1.40 The Oprah Winfrey Show (Ceefax) (896835) 2.20 *Crawshaw Paints Oils* (8718600) 2.45 *Understanding* (4311364) 3.00 *News* (1600890) 3.05 *The Natural World* (1606513) 3.55 *News* (3261561)

4.00 Cartoon (5441548) 4.05 *Fudge* (3201109) (Ceefax) (4) 4.30 *ITN News* (115) 5.00 *Newsround* (Ceefax) (9637105)

5.10 Sara (Ceefax) (4174155) 5.35 *Paralympics* with Helen Rollason. Action from Atlanta includes finals in fencing, judo, cycling, swimming and athletics (s) (884074)

6.15 Star Trek: The Original Series (8121093) A series of short films celebrating the 30th anniversary of *Star Trek*, television's most famous sci-fi programme (s) (380398)



Jeffrey Hunter as Capt Pike (6.25pm)

6.25 Star Trek: The Original Series (8121093) A series of short films celebrating the 30th anniversary of *Star Trek*, television's most famous sci-fi programme (s) (380398)

7.30 Gower's Cricket Monthly from New Road, Worcester. A round-up of all the latest cricket news (s) (884)

8.00 International Athletics (s) (4768364) 9.40 *Timewatch: Karnak* — a hidden history. With the help of state-of-the-art computer reconstruction programme reveals the hidden history of the great temple at Karnak. (Ceefax) (962109) Followed by *Video Nation Shorts*

10.30 Newswatch (Ceefax) (248451) 11.15 *Edinburgh Nights*. Emma Freud presents highlights from this year's festival including a rare interview with the American actor Sam Shepard (306074)

12.05am Grace Under Fire (5823391) 12.30 *The Learning Zone: Open University: News Stories* (831981) 1.00 *Linking into the Future* (57846) 1.30 *An Introduction to Psychology* (97952) 2.00 *Summer Nights*. Book Lover Collections 1 (81575) 4.00 *Language*. When in Italy/Dive: RCN Nursing Update (31223)

Sex and the Scientists: Our Brilliant Careers (Channel 4, 9.00pm)
If this series hasn't undermined the received wisdom that nearly all scientists are men, then nothing will. It concludes with three illustrious, vivacious old birds, two of whom, at 75 and 90, are still white-coated and working. Dr Helen Mair's discoveries on how and why our brains affect joints and tissues took her to the Kennedy Institute for Rheumatology in London which she ran for ten years. Dr Alice Stewart's conviction that radiation can cause cancer than we are prepared to admit infuriated Oxford (and the nuclear industry) and she was denied the professorship she richly deserved. Dame Rosemary Carrivick, is the first woman mathematician to be elected to the Royal Society. Her work with radar paved the way for the chaos theory.

Out of the Blue (BBC1, 9.30pm)
Writer Peter Bowker fields some neat lines: the stodgeyish (but keen as a whip) CID boss Eric Temple (John Durnin) telling his downbeat, cynical, "illuminate" the darkness" is typical. And there is darkness in this third of an above-average police series: it concerns a gay rape and DC Ludlow (Peter Wright) wants out. "If it's a late night's been raped, I can tell her she's safe — that I'm here to protect her," he says. "I looked at Terry (the victim) and I thought, 'What can I offer him? The gays of South Yorkshire are evidently a tough lot and they have to be when the local community turns vigilante. Meanwhile, since you ask, DC Allen's (Durrell D'Silva) steamy affair with suspect's daughter Lucy (Nicola Stephenson) continues apace..." Can Elizabeth Cowley

6.00am GMTV (4974432) 9.25 *Halfway Across the Galaxy* (1748703) 9.50 *Hope and Gloria* (2751894)

10.20 ITN News (5077242) 10.25 *Regional News* (Teletext) (5076513)

10.30 FILM: Stacy's Knights (1983) Comedy starring Kevin Costner and Andrea Martin. Directed by Jim Wilson (4041784) 12.20pm *Regional News* (1527616)

12.30 ITN News and weather (6525635) 12.55 *Shortland Street* (6437426) 1.25 *Coronation Street* (6294426) 2.00 *Home and Away* (8726190)

2.25 Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (8708278) 3.30 *ITN News* (1817180) 3.35 *Regional News* (1616451) 3.30 *Caribou Kitchen* (s) (8869267)

3.40 Teletext (s) (3823432) 3.50 *Sticky Fingers* (s) (3823432) 4.00 *Scout* (s) (7634157) 4.15 *The Famous Five* (563971) 4.45 *The Great Detective* (1164887)

5.10 Our House (561451) 5.40 *ITN News* and weather (974819) 6.00 *Home and Away* (170567) 6.25 *Regional News* (257180)

7.00 The List with guests John Francome and Joe Pasquale (1513) 7.30 *Coronation Street*. Alec has a proposition for Joyce (838) 8.00 *Classic Cooper*. Tonight the comic is joined by Diana Dors (3161) 8.30 *Take Your Pick* (6068)



A woman in a wavy (9.00pm)

9.00 In Suspicious Circumstances. In *Who's Sorry Now?* there is a sudden death in a family after a sheep farmer (the wife) dies. 5.10 *Home and Away* (561451) 6.00 *Meridian Tonight* (154) 6.30 *Out of Town* (426) 7.00-7.30 *Celebrity Squares* (1513) 10.40 *The Pter* (270109) 11.10 *Meridian Masterclass* (219109) 11.45 *Max Monroe: Loose Cannon* (50722)

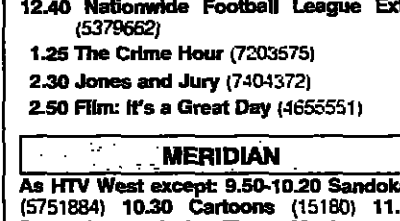
11.00 Inner Journeys: Elaine Heller (2/2) (1813364) 11.40 *Tropical Heat* (s) (298616) 12.40am *Bushell on the Box* (3138488) 1.15 *The Crime Hour* (633933) 2.15 *FILM: The Lady Fingers* (1989) starring Donna Mills and Greg Evigan. A woman disappears after an accident, only to return home two years later unable to account for her absence. Directed by Bradford May (56876)

4.05 Jones and Jerry (5476378) 4.30 *The Time... the Place: Sins of the Fathers* (s) (65865) 5.00 *The Entertainers: Roy Castle* (s) (80240) 5.30 *ITN Morning News* (35049)

As HTV West except: 5.10pm-5.40 *Yan Can Cook* (5561451) 6.25 *Wales Tonight* (321180) 7.00-7.30 *House to House* (1513) 10.40 *Film: The Dead Pool* (23194451)

WESTCOUNTRY
As HTV West except: 10.30 *Film: Marilyn and Me* (4041784) 12.55 *Coronation Street* (6437426) 1.25-1.55 *Pictures from the Garden House Studio* (83048242) 1.55 *Home and Away* (56843345) 2.25 *Wild about Cornwall* (87271277) 2.55-3.20 *A Country Practice* (1687567) 5.10-5.40 *Home and Away* (561451) 6.00 *Westcountry Live* (47272) 7.00-7.30 *Celebrity Squares* (1513) 10.40 *Special Report* (253432) 11.10 *Street Legal* (517726) 12.10am *Short Story Cinema* (5839681)

CENTRAL
As HTV West except: 10.30 *Murder, She Wrote* (5035180) 11.25 *14 Weddings and a Divorce* (9206635) 12.55pm *Home and Away* (5437426) 1.25 *Just a Minute* (83048242) 1.55 *A Country Practice* (89776884) 2.20-3.20 *Blue Heelers* (2051285) 5.10-5.40 *Shortland Street* (5561451) 6.25 *Central News and Weather* (321180) 7.00-7.30 *Celebrity Squares* (1513) 10.40 *Film: Buried Alive* (64931109) 12.25am *Sound Bites* (9335933) 12.40 *Nationwide Football League Extra* (5379662) 1.25 *The Crime Hour* (7203575) 2.30 *Jones and Jerry* (7404372) 2.50 *Film: It's a Great Day* (4655551)

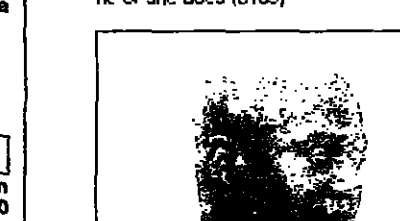


A woman in a wavy (9.00pm)

As HTV West except: 9.50-10.20 *Sandokan* (571884) 10.30 *Cartoons* (15180) 11.00 *Dogman and the Three Musketeers* (5179908) 11.25 *Cross Combat* (5172093) 11.55 *Dungeons and Dragons* (398198) 12.55pm *Coronation Street* (6437426) 1.25 *Home and Away* (83048242) 1.55 *Shortland Street* (5561451) 2.25-3.20 *Blue Heelers* (2051285) 5.10-5.40 *Shortland Street* (5561451) 6.00 *Meridian Tonight* (154) 6.30 *Out of Town* (426) 7.00-7.30 *Celebrity Squares* (1513) 10.40 *The Pter* (270109) 11.10 *Meridian Masterclass* (219109) 11.45 *Max Monroe: Loose Cannon* (50722)

Starts: 6.35 *Hammerman* (2438242) 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (44277) 9.00 *California Dreams* (7417338) 9.25 *The Secret World of Alex Mack* (s) (7314797) 9.55 *Hangin' with Mr Cooper* (8619800) 10.20 *Earthworm Jim* (2387155) 10.45 *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures* (5483277) 11.10 *Blister Mice from Mars* (8362155) 11.35 *Insektors* (8418724) 11.50 *Dennis* (8673987) 12.05pm *Mork and Mandy* (5671001) 12.30 *Travels a la Carte* (5483277) 12.55 *Portrait of Clare* (1950, b/w) An elderly woman recalls her romantic life. Directed by Lance Comfort. (Teletext) (638819) 1.00 *Sesame Street* (s) (57600) 2.00 *Cyclists Abroad* (47043987) 2.20 *FILM: Portrait of Clare* (1950, b/w) An elderly woman recalls her romantic life. Directed by Lance Comfort. (Teletext) (638819) 4.00 *Australia Wild* (s) (567) 4.30 *Countdown*. (Teletext) (s) (451) 5.00 *The Mervyn Williams Show* (Teletext) (s) (8637451) 5.45 *Snapehops* (s) (964432) 6.00 *The Cosby Show* (s) (Teletext) (s) (638819) 6.30 *Boy Meets World* (Teletext) (s) (638819) 7.00 *Channel 4 News* (Teletext) (s) (456335) 7.55 *The Six* (73258) 8.00 *Channel 4 News* (Teletext) (s) (456335) 8.30 *Strictly Dancing*. (2/6) The development of Sequence Dancing. (Teletext) (s) (7398) 9.00 *CHOICE: Sex and the Scientists*. The last programme of the series that looks at whether the gender of a scientist can have an effect on the work he or she does (6109)

6.35am Hammerman (s) (2438242) 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (44277) 9.00 *California Dreams* (s) (7417338) 9.25 *The Secret World of Alex Mack* (s) (7314797) 9.55 *Hangin' with Mr Cooper* (s) (8619800) 10.20 *Earthworm Jim* (s) (2387155) 10.45 *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures* (s) (5483277) 11.10 *Blister Mice from Mars* (s) (8362155) 11.35 *Insektors* (s) (8418724) 11.50 *Dennis* (s) (8673987) 12.05pm *Mork and Mandy* (s) (5671001) 12.30 *Travels a la Carte* (s) (5483277) 12.55 *Portrait of Clare* (s) (1950, b/w) An elderly woman recalls her romantic life. Directed by Lance Comfort. (Teletext) (638819) 1.00 *Sesame Street* (s) (57600) 2.00 *Cyclists Abroad* (s) (47043987) 2.20 *FILM: Portrait of Clare* (s) (1950, b/w) An elderly woman recalls her romantic life. Directed by Lance Comfort. (Teletext) (638819) 4.00 *Australia Wild* (s) (567) 4.30 *Countdown*. (Teletext) (s) (451) 5.00 *The Mervyn Williams Show* (Teletext) (s) (8637451) 5.45 *Snapehops* (s) (964432) 6.00 *The Cosby Show* (s) (Teletext) (s) (638819) 6.30 *Boy Meets World* (Teletext) (s) (638819) 7.00 *Channel 4 News* (Teletext) (s) (456335) 7.55 *The Six* (73258) 8.00 *Channel 4 News* (Teletext) (s) (456335) 8.30 *Strictly Dancing*. (2/6) The development of Sequence Dancing. (Teletext) (s) (7398) 9.00 *CHOICE: Sex and the Scientists*. The last programme of the series that looks at whether the gender of a scientist can have an effect on the work he or she does (6109)



André Braugher as Pemberton (10pm)

10.00 HomeLife — Life on the Street. Baltimore police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (3068) 11.00-2.30am *Latino Nights: Latin Beat* (8722) 11.30 *TV Latino*. Mel Gorham looks at the fastest-growing television market in the world — the *Telenovela* (808181) 12.05am *Cruero/Crossroads*. The notions of race and representations of Latin Americans in North America (s) (583952) 12.35 *FILM: Danzon* (1990) starring Maria Novato. The story of a tortoiseshell woman's journey of self-discovery. Directed by Maria Novato. In Spanish with English subtitles (506862) 2.30 *FILM: Cain and Abel* (1936, b/w) starring Martin Davies and Clark Gable. The story of a him who is persuaded to agree to a wild lunch with a prostitute for publicity purposes. Directed by Lloyd Bacon (396407). Ends at 4.05

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE
7.00am *Unlabeled* (1155) 9.00 *Press Your Luck* (473531) 9.30 *Love Connection* (1650722) 9.45 *The Oprah Winfrey Show* (5677338) 10.40 *Jasper Carrott* (5677338) 11.00 *Regional News* (1155) 11.30 *Southbound* (1155) 12.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 1.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 1.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 2.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 2.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 3.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 3.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 4.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 4.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 5.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 5.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 6.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 6.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 7.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 7.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 8.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 8.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 9.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 9.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 10.00 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 10.30 *Desperate Housewives* (84722) 11.00 *Desperate 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BUYBACK BILL 42
Graham Searjeant
on the cost
to taxpayers

BUSINESS

MONDAY AUGUST 19 1996

DOWN UNDER 42
Australians face
a period of
belt-tightening



Fall fr

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK 16

Pay awards point to fall in inflation

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

AN UNEXPECTED slowdown in pay awards has given a powerful boost to the Government's anti-inflation policies.

Pay awards in manufacturing fell back to an average of only 3.2 per cent in the three months ending in July, from 3.5 per cent in the previous three months to end April, according to figures from the Confederation of British Industry's databank.

The CBI figures, which are regarded as a good guide to trends, also show that pay awards were down on the 3.3

per cent average for the same three months in 1995.

In the fifth year of economic expansion, the labour market is therefore contributing to stable prices rather than stoking up inflation. But a second survey today suggests that industry could face a winter of pay strikes.

Economists will draw heart from the solid concentration of pay deals. In the year to end July, three quarters of manufacturing awards were between 2.5 and 4.5 per cent, with most in the lower half. Four manufacturers in ten

told the CBI that awards had been held back by their inability to pass on cost increases. One in four said that low inflation was also helping them to keep pay in check, helping to complete a virtuous circle of falling inflation.

Pay accelerated slightly in service industry deals in the latest three months, averaging 3.6 per cent, up from 3.5 per cent in the three months to April, but down from 3.7 per cent in the same period a year ago. Two thirds of service industry awards struck in the past 12 months were also between 2.5 and 4.5 per cent.

However, the fourth annual industrial relations survey from Dobb Lupton Broomhead, the employment lawyer, suggests that frustration among employees at pay restraint could break out into strike action just as after-tax pay starts to rise in real terms. Britain is facing its worst "winter of discontent" in industrial relations for many years, the lawyers claim.

Nearly a third of companies surveyed expect industrial action over the next year, and more than two thirds of unions predict an increase in action.

David Bradley, co-author of the Dobb Lupton survey, said increased industrial action could be linked with an economic upturn. "People are becoming a bit more confident about their positions and are more willing to take action."

The survey, of 130 companies, 50 public-sector employers and 50 unions, also found that unions were prepared to take strike action earlier in a dispute but rarely had to do so.

The proportion of workers joining company pension schemes has been eroded by "steady attrition" to 87 per cent since the Government made membership voluntary in 1988, a survey by Incomes Data Services suggests.

In some firms, 100 per cent of eligible employees join schemes. In others, take-up has fallen to 30 per cent as newcomers try to minimise deductions from low pay in jobs they regard as insecure.



Aiming to win: a racehorse is led past Christy Phillipson, left, and Peter Bickmore, heads of British Bloodstock, which is seeking a listing AIM, page 41

Charities seek buyback equality

By Oliver August

A CAMPAIGN to stop charities being disadvantaged by the current state of share buybacks is gathering momentum. Charitable fund trustees want the Stock Exchange to change the rules to stop large institutional investors being given opportunities to profit from buybacks when others are excluded. Several MPs have written to the Treasury, asking it to intervene.

Alan Diamond, a stockbroker who has led the lobbying for a change of rules, said: "When a major public decides to launch a rapid buyback of its company's shares for cancellation, to enhance future earnings per share, the immediate effect is an enormous disadvantage to smaller gross funds which hold that particular company's equity."

Recent examples of rapid buybacks include Boots, NatWest and Barclays. The

problem arises because most companies who buy back shares do not make formal tender offers to all registered shareholders. Instead, they instruct their corporate brokers to approach institutional fund managers. Smaller gross funds such as charities or self-administered pension funds are excluded because they cannot react as quickly as large institutions.

Selling shares back is very lucrative because funds can claim a 20 per cent advance corporation tax refund on the shares sold. The Stock Exchange has responded to a letter from Mr Diamond by saying that "no change in Listing Rules is required".

Gross fund trustees would like to see a short suspension of a company's shares to coincide with an official buyback announcement.

Graham Searjeant, page 42

Final US hurdle for Lloyd's

By Jon Ashworth

RON SANDLER, chief executive of Lloyd's of London, is due in an American court today, at the opening of a case that poses the last big obstacle to the market's recovery plans. About 100 American names have launched an action in Richmond, Virginia, seeking an injunction on the Lloyd's reconstruction and renewal (R&R) scheme. Lloyd's could be forced to rush in contingency plans if the action is upheld.

The move comes as a new MORI poll suggests 85 per cent of UK names support R&R, up from 82 per cent previously.

Only 4 per cent indicated they would not accept R&R, with its accompanying £3.2 billion litigation settlement offer. Names have until noon on Wednesday, August 28, in which to return their settlement offer acceptance forms.

Mr Sandler has been called as a witness in the Virginia case, which turns on whether R&R is in violation of US securities laws. Judge Robert Payne, the district judge presiding over the case, had asked the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for its opinion on the securities issue.

The SEC voted on Friday to remain neutral, saying it "regrettably" could not get involved. Neither will it be drawn on whether Lloyd's membership constitutes a security.

It had been argued that the case should be heard in America on the grounds that federal securities laws superseded contracts between Lloyd's and the American names. Lloyd's has moved to dismiss the case on the grounds that its contract requires US names to bring their case before an English court.

The names are seeking an

injunction to stop Lloyd's from getting them to accept the plan until details of Equitas financing have been disclosed. They say they viewed Lloyd's investments as "securities", and US disclosure laws must apply.

Victory in Virginia could deny R&R of \$280 million due from 2,700 US names, compelling Lloyd's to reconsider its options. The rescue scheme would either have to be put on hold, or rejigged to take account of the "missing" US funds. Lloyd's almost certainly has contingency plans in place.

In the latest in a separate raft of US actions, a judge in Tennessee has denied a request for a broad temporary injunction seeking to block the making of settlement offers to Tennessee names. Instead, Lloyd's must give 14 days' notice of intention to draw down on names' assets — a move consistent with agreements reached in 38 other states.

The last big UK threat to the Lloyd's rescue was removed last week, when the Paying Names Action Group failed in a High Court attempt to block R&R on the grounds that it was unlawful. The PNAG must decide today whether to take its case to the Court of Appeal.

Trocadero targets tourists

By Alasdair Murray

THE Trocadero aims to prove it has completed its transformation from a rundown site in London's Piccadilly Circus when it relaunches tomorrow.

The leisure complex has undergone a £50 million revamp that includes installing an atrium and banks of video screens inside to create a futuristic feel.

SegaWorld, a £45 million games centre, is due to open in September, offering 650 games and amusements targeted at tourists.

Over the next year, a theme café based on Marvel comic characters such as Spider-Man, Captain America and the Incredible Hulk, is also due to open. The complex will hold 1max, the first 3-D cinema in London, and other attractions based on characters in Enid Blyton stories.

The Trocadero has benefited from being hived off from the Burford property group last autumn as a separate AIM company. Trocadero shares closed on Friday at 77p, valuing the company at £385 million, against a 35p float price.

Ferries set for merger talks

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

TALKS that could lead to a merger of Britain's largest ferry companies and end the crippling price war on cross-Channel routes are set to get under way in September.

Lord Sterling, chairman of P&O, the largest cross-Channel ferry operator, is expected to contact senior executives at Stena, the second-biggest player, within days to discuss a formal meeting.

Last month the companies were given the go-ahead to

negotiate — after a 17-year ban — by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade. If both sides can agree to talk, a deal could be in place for the start of the main holiday season next Easter.

The firms have seen profits sliced during intense competition sparked by the opening of the Channel Tunnel. One operator, Brittany Ferries, had to abandon plans to offer tickets at 1976 prices to mark its 20th anniversary this sum-

mer when it discovered fares have fallen by more than a fifth since its service began.

Initial talks are expected to centre around merging timetables to cut down on departures and reduce ferry overcrowding on the prime Dover to Calais route. Lord Sterling is under intense City pressure to improve the returns from ferry operations and would like to announce progress with P&O's interim results in mid-September.

Parenting costs in a class of their own

By Sarah Jones

DROPPING your five-year-old off on his or her first day of school may tug at the heart strings but it will also certainly pull at the purse strings.

According to a report out today, the typical expenditure parents face as their child journeys through their primary and secondary years is a staggering £62,691.59.

Increased mortgage payments, caused by needing a larger house, account for the biggest single expenditure (£19,716). Other major expenses in the primary years come in the form of food, pets, eating out and clothing, and in the secondary years, food, entertainment, sports, presents, clothing and pocket money.

The combined cost of primary and secondary schools covering uniforms, sports gear, equipment, field trips and the odd school holiday comes to £4,661, assuming the child is educated in a state school. Not far behind are Christmas and birthday presents along with parties and the occasional impulse gift purchases (£4,514).

Even from the tender age of five there is a massive gap between the haves and the have-nots. *What Price a Child?* — commissioned by Asda, the supermarket group — says that the bottom 10 per cent of spenders will pay out £23,869 over a decade, while the top 10 per cent will spend £137,125. Both sets of parents will receive the same amount of child benefit, which over the years adds up to £6,177.

As well as spending less on



Uniforms add to the bills

most items, the lowest spenders are reported to forgo eating out, pocket money, school field trips, eyecare and paying for haircuts, extra phones and home contents and life insurance. The extra cost to the top 10 per cent comes mainly from private schooling.

The costs for second and subsequent children are not reflected in the report.

Adding in costs for toddlers and teenage students from previous *What Price a Child?* reports, the average family will spend a total £100,513 on their child from conception to the age of 21, even allowing for child benefit. Poorer parents get by on £39,305, while the top 10 per cent of spenders splash out £295,669.

Cybertec in video venture

Cybertec, a British multimedia communications company, has signed a £4 million deal with Anglo Corporation, which, it says, will bring affordable video conferencing to consumers this autumn.

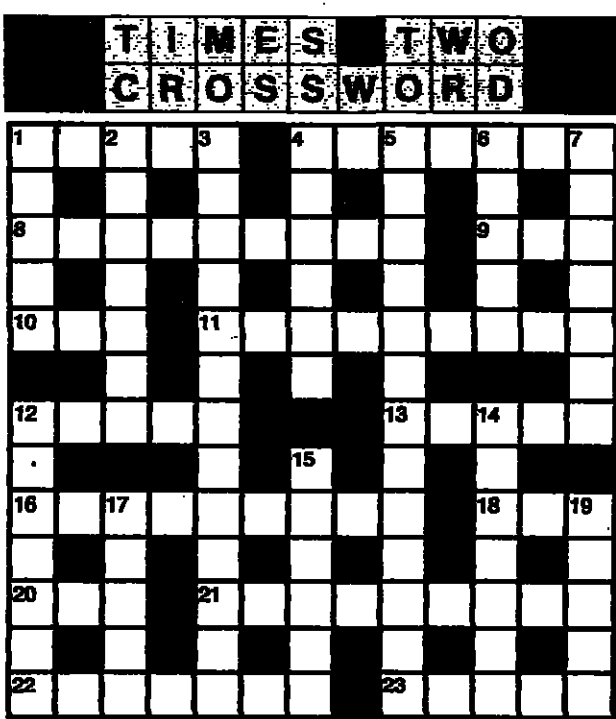
Anglo gets exclusive UK distribution rights to Cybertec's V-COM colour video conferencing kits, retailing at £299, including VAT. Cybertec's system uses standard personal computers and provides real-time video conferencing over standard phone lines. International video phone calls can also be made over the Internet for the cost of a local call.

Profit worry

British corporate profitability is still less than two thirds of pre-recession levels, with little sign of recovery, according to the latest CCN Corporate Health Check. Profitability peaked in the second quarter of 1995 and has not moved since. A decline in exports has not been compensated for by increased consumer activity. CCN said that investment has fallen below the most pessimistic forecasts and predicted liquidity problems. Services show the most progress in recouping profitability.

Black lager

Guinness has confirmed that it is testing market response to a new black lager, but says that no decision has yet been taken on whether to launch the product. The drinks group typically runs tests on up to a dozen different products around the world at any one time. A spokesman said: "Not every product we test makes it into the real world."



No 864

- ACROSS**
- Discoloured; angry (5)
 - Mary —, 1964 film nanny (7)
 - Major mark of progress (9)
 - Tree; sounds like *pelt* (3)
 - Bath; leaky ship (3)
 - Clear (of charges) (9)
 - Dirty mark; libellous imputation (5)
 - Should (5)
 - Reprove; plead against (9)
 - Archaeological excavation (3)
 - (Canister) top (3)
 - In disguise (9)
 - Joy (7)
 - Taut drunk (5)
- DOWN**
- A bound (5)
 - Fluent and outspoken (7)
 - Lowering one's courage, keenness (13)
 - Particle of light (6)
 - Old Spanish dollars (6,2,5)
 - Beneath one's dignity (5,3)
 - Snake; deceiver (7)
 - Ready to be ridden; lumbered (7)
 - Little —, an Eliot Quartet (7)
 - Bringer of luck (6)
 - Foot control (5)
 - Phantom (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 863

ACROSS: 1 Catapult 5 Swig 8 Manor 9 Diploma 11 Arc 12 Poison-pen 13 Solace 15 Barrow 18 Dr Zhivago 19 Poe 20 Convent 21 Image 22 Trek 23 Fast food

DOWN: 1 Compass 2 Tonic 3 Perspective 4 Ludwig 6 Whopper 7 Grain 10 Protagonist 14 Lorraine 16 Weekend 17 Mantra 18 Ducat 19 Piano

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Fall from grace in a seaside hotel

HIDDEN HISTORY

Continuing our occasional series, *The Times* unravels a tale of doomed, illicit love between a privileged but naïve young wife and a dashing prince

Born 18 months after her father distinguished himself as a national hero at Trafalgar, Jane Digby enjoyed a golden childhood at Holkham Hall, one of England's great houses. She was an intelligent and affectionate child; a mischievous tomboy who metamorphosed into a head-turning beauty. This and her aristocratic background established her as "a catch" when she made her debut at 16, and within weeks she was engaged to the highly eligible Lord Ellenborough.

Ellenborough, a friend of Wellington, would become a Cabinet Minister and, subsequently, Governor-General of India. At 34, he was more than twice Jane's age; a handsome, sophisticated and serious politician who had been widowed early and now longed for a son. The marriage began blissfully, with the newlyweds writing flowery verse to each

other daily. But Ellenborough was a highly ambitious workaholic and, besides, had a long-established mistress. After her son was born, Jane, the teenaged chaperone of two impressive establishments, was increasingly left alone.

When she met Prince Felix Schwarzenberg at an Austrian Embassy ball, it was love at first sight for both. Discretion went unheeded as they were seen riding in Rotten Row, in his box at the opera, at the races. Harley Street residents became used to seeing Lady Ellenborough's groom waiting outside number 73, where the prince lived.

Had she been older and more sophisticated, Jane might have averted disaster after the lovers spent a night together in Brighton and made the name "Lady Ellenborough" synonymous with scandal for decades...

MARY LOVELL



Lady Jane Ellenborough, a beauty who was engaged and married at an early age. Then Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, above, came into her life...



Edward, Lord Ellenborough, circa 1831



attempt to obtain Ellenborough's permission to go abroad to be confined in secret. He would, of course, do all in his power to assist her in this delicate matter. His suggestion was not made coldly; he was, according to his letters, still very much in love with Jane. Yet, whatever protestations of love Felix made to her, the fact remains that he rode off leaving his pregnant young mistress to face public condemnation and her husband's wrath for the sake of his career.

Until comparatively recent years *The Times* was renowned for its conservatism, and for its front page which consisted of classified advertisements. In May 1966, when the front page was changed to a news format, there was an outcry. However, there was a precedent. One hundred and thirty six years earlier, in April 1830, the Editor placed the Ellenborough divorce case on the front page with a verbatim report.

Hepple was leading witness for the prosecution and testified what transpired after the prince entered Lady Ellenborough's room at midnight.

Q Did he lock the door after him?

A He did.

Q Did you still watch him?

A I waited a short time at the door... a quarter of an hour the first time; then I went again... and remained there. I darsay, nearly an hour.

Q How near to the door?

A Quite close... I heard two persons talking, a man and a woman in the room... the language was foreign to me, it was not a language I understood at all.

Q Did you hear anything more?

A I heard him get into bed... and I heard them kissing.

Q What did you hear then?

A I could hear them kissing, and a noise that convinced me that the act of cohabitation was taking place.

For weeks Jane's misdeeds were breakfast titbit for the entire country. Respectable women would sit in their own drawing rooms and read shocking revelations about Lady Ellenborough's conduct such as those of Mr John Ward, the Prince's neighbour in Harley Street, who testified that Jane was a frequent visitor to the house opposite, disguised with a white veil. Sometimes, he said, he saw her in the upper-floor room which faced his drawing room.

Q Have you ever observed anything in particular passing between them?

A On one occasion I saw Prince Schwarzenberg assisting in dressing the lady.

Q In what state was the lady at this time?

A The Prince was facing her.

Jane was not present at the hearings. She had bolted to Europe to join Felix in time for the birth of their daughter. In doing so Jane made herself a lifelong social outcast.

JANE arrived at the Norfolk Hotel just as the winter light was fading at about five o'clock. She was shown to the suite of apartments in the east wing which she and her husband often used. Entrance from the main part of the hotel was by a staircase which led nowhere else other than to staff quarters. Arthur was brought to her and, as babies will, having not seen his mother for weeks, threw a tantrum. A little later Jane dashed off a note to Ellenborough at Southampton:

Brighton, Friday night (postmarked 7 February 1829)

To Lord Ellenborough
Connaught Place, London

Dearest Ossy,
I am just arrived, and will only write you one line as I am tired to death with my journey. I found Arthur looking really pretty — you may believe it if I say so — and appears to me much improved in strength, but he greeted me with such a howl! We shall improve upon acquaintance.

If you go to Mrs Hope's tonight, have the thought to make my excuses to save me the trouble of writing them. The post is ringing. Good night, dearest.

Jane

Felix arrived at the hotel between six and seven o'clock in a hired yellow-bodied chariot driven by a post-boy. He alighted from the coach carry-

ing his cloak and a carpet-bag which bore his coat of arms and initials, and was shown to a room in the west wing. This room was approached by the central stairway from the main hall of the hotel. Having settled in and had his luggage unpacked by a member of the hotel staff, he took dinner in his private sitting-room and as the waiter was clearing away he asked casually who else was staying in the hotel at this unseasonal time of year. He was told Lady Ellenborough was in residence. "Is that the dowager Lady Ellenborough?" the prince inquired. "No," was the answer. "It is the young Lady Ellenborough." The prince asked the waiter to take his card to the lady with his compliments.

Within a short time, the waiter returned to the prince with the message that the lady would be delighted if, after the prince had dined, he would take tea with her in her room. The waiter personally served tea to Lady Ellenborough and her guest and noted that they remained together until half-past ten, when the prince left to return to his sitting room. Requesting the waiter to fetch a bedroom candle and light it, Felix said goodnight and went up to his bedroom.

At about midnight the hall porter, Robert Hepple, who was sitting in his pantry, heard someone coming down the main stairs. He walked across the hall foyer, which was illuminated by gas lighting, and saw the prince descending the stairs. As soon as the prince saw the porter, he retreated back up the stairs.

Hepple was keen to know what a person at that time was wishing to do and kept out of sight for a while. To ensure that he was not seen, he put out the light in his pantry. His vigil was not long. Within ten or 15 minutes the prince, still wearing the "frock coat, trousers and boots" in which he had dined, softly descended the stairs, crossed the hall and went along the passage leading to the east wing's private stairway.

Mr Hepple followed him and watched as the prince entered Lady Ellenborough's bedroom without knocking. The door was closed and the key turned in the lock. After peering through the keyhole and listening for 15 minutes at the door, Mr Hepple formed his own opinion of what was happening within. He returned to his pantry. When he retired at 3am, the prince had not yet reappeared. Next morning Hepple was summoned to the prince's room and asked to press some clothes.

At about 9.30am the prince descended to the hotel sitting room, where he joined Lady Ellenborough for breakfast. Although it is not possible to say for certain what Jane and Felix spoke of over breakfast, it is possible to guess that one subject under discussion was an unpleasant incident which had occurred in Jane's bedroom earlier that morning. Mr William Walton, the proprietor's brother, who was responsible for waiting on the suite of rooms in the east wing, took it upon himself to tell her ladyship that his colleague, Mr Robert Hepple, had confided in him what he had seen and heard the previous night. Mr Hepple felt that the information ought to be communicated to Lord Ellenborough, a frequent guest in the hotel.

Jane was taken by surprise but did not panic, relying upon her ability to charm the opposite sex. She admitted "that what she had done was

wrong" and she did not wish anyone to learn about what had transpired. Begging Walton not to repeat what he had told her to anyone, especially not to her maid, she then gave him "a present" of £20.

Not surprisingly, Walton promised his silence in response to such generosity. It was not often he received a tip that equalled half a year's wages, even though he subsequently gave Hepple £5 of it.

The prince watched Jane depart at 11 o'clock with her small retinue before he also left at about noon in the hired chariot for London.

WITHIN weeks Jane discovered she was pregnant. There

was no doubting the paternity of her second child, since, although she had a bed in the marital bedchamber, she and Ellenborough had not enjoyed sexual relations for some months at her own request.

Meanwhile, reports of Jane's flagrant behaviour had finally begun to make an impression on Ellenborough, especially when his brother Henry related gossip which reflected unfavourably upon her. Too late, Ellenborough accepted the sense of warning letters he had received strongly urging him to spend more time with his young wife. At first his concern showed itself in requests for Jane not to visit those very people to

whom he had introduced her. At length he received a letter from one Robert Hepple, a former employee of the Norfolk Hotel in Brighton. Unfortunately, £5 had not seemed sufficient reason for Mr Hepple to keep his lordship uninformed about Lady Ellenborough's delinquency; he felt his knowledge might be worth more to her husband. The letter contained information which, though he was reluctant to believe it, Lord Ellenborough could not ignore.

When Ellenborough confronted his wife with the contents of the letter, Jane confessed, but only partially. She admitted her attachment to Felix, though not the full extent of it, and she denied the act of adultery in Brighton. This was foolishness taken to an absurd degree, for she could not have hoped to hide her condition indefinitely; and

at the date of this discussion she must at least have suspected her pregnancy.

Jane's first thought was to rush to Felix and lay her problems upon his broad shoulders; but she got little comfort from him. Apparently realising for the first time the predicament in which he was now placed, the prince was appalled. He saw clearly that the matter could cause a minor diplomatic incident and the end of his promising career. He immediately reported the matter to his ambassador and was given 48 hours to put his affairs in order, pack and leave for home, pending an imminent transfer to the Paris embassy.

On May 11, 1829 Felix left for Europe, telling Jane he had no alternative but to accept his new posting and suggesting that, since she could not confess her pregnancy, she should

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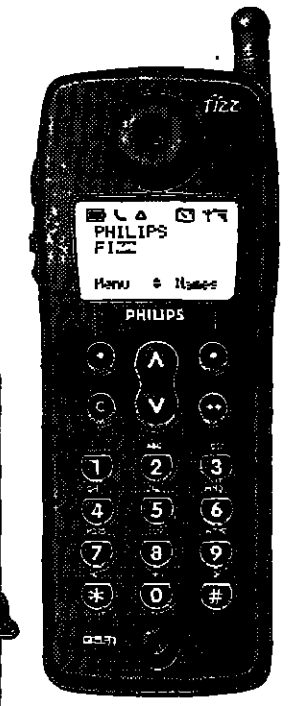
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TOMORROW

At the age of 50, Jane finds love in the desert with an Arab sheikh

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ANTI-SEMITISM
IN EUROPE

Six years after the collapse of Communism, racist tones are creeping back into the political vocabulary in central and eastern Europe. Roger Boyes investigates

A brave
new world
for Jews in
Germany

BERLIN: AN OASIS IN THE WEST

The five-year-olds have problems opening the bomb and bullet-proof doors of the new Jewish school in Berlin: it is like shifting the stone lid of a tomb. Inside the finely designed building, however, there is nothing of the crypt. For the first time in more than 50 years there is a vibrant Jewish life in Berlin — thanks, in part, to the anti-Semitism of Eastern Europe which has driven Jewish families to seek the improbable shelter of the German capital.

They are confident about the future, these pony-tailed offspring of Russians and Ukrainians. The English class of seven-year-olds have pinned their essays on the classroom walls. "I would like to be a film producer when I am 16 and live with my boyfriend in Italy," writes one ambitious girl. Boys want to grow up so that they can play basketball with Michael Jordan or own a Ferrari.

A short urban train ride away from these noisy, lively corridors and from the kosher canteen, there is the white villa on the Wannsee Lake where the destruction of European Jewry was planned by the Nazis. The newly reopened Jewish grammar school meanwhile is no more than a stroll from the unmarked plot of land where Hitler had his bunker. The influx of Jews from the east has made possible these juxtapositions: European Jewry is re-forming, rediscovering roots, building new communities — and perhaps stirring up new enemies.

This summer marks a sinister anniversary — it is precisely 900 years since the massacre and pillaging of the Jewish settlements down the Rhine Valley — Speyer, Worms, Mainz, Cologne — and on to Prague. The violence was prompted by the declaration of the First Crusade by Pope Urban and the conviction of the knights that

"infidels living on Christian territories" should be the first to be destroyed. The bloodshed of 1096 — Jews were offered a choice between Christian baptism and the sword, prompting thousands to kill themselves — has branded generations; so too have the myths of that epoch. Nine centuries on, anti-Semitic texts in Ukraine, Russia, Slovakia, the Baltic Republics and Poland play with the same imagery: of Jews ritually murdering children, of hook-nosed usurers, the equation of Jews with Satan.

Not much attention is paid by ordinary people to these rabid writings. But a straw poll conducted by a Polish newspaper in November, 1990, produced opinions like these even from educated people... Malgorzata Fialkowska (a university graduate): "Even if there are just two of them, one will seize power and the other money... What other nation in Poland has its own newspaper, school, theatre, and despite

successive purges, is still in power? And not only here, the United States is also ruled by their money."

Or take Krystyna Blasas, a 40-year-old civil servant: "They are an evil nation, but I brought up my children to speak ill of them only at home, and not in public... Let Jews rule their own country and Poles rule theirs."

There are of course many countervailing opinions, many Poles recognise that there are virtually no Jews left in their country, and that the influence of Jews — malign or benign — on the machinery of power is the product of overworked imaginations and manipulated anxieties.

But there is no mistaking the enduring force of anti-Semitism throughout Central and Eastern Europe: anti-Semitism without

Vibrant
Jewish life
has at
last
returned to
Berlin

Jews. Liberal Poles raise their arms in despair and say: "A typically Polish phenomenon."

Once home to three million Jews, the community in Poland is now only a few thousand: chiefly Jews are represented by their graves.

Yet anti-Semitism without Jews has been a European phenomenon for centuries. There were, for example, at most no Jews left in the Low Countries after the Black Plague, yet texts of the period described the Jews in the most poisonous of prose; a well known French poem characterised the Jews as "wicked and cruel as dogs". There were no Jews remaining in England after their expulsion in 1290, but anti-Semitic themes were played out again and again in the 13th and 14th centuries, even by Chaucer.

Norma Drimmer, an energetic

organiser of the Berlin Jewish school, notes that racism or antagonism against her community helps younger Jews to define their identity. There may indeed be anti-Semitism without Jews but anti-Semitism, in a strange way, also helps to create Jews. "When there was a wave of neo-Nazi attacks against Turks and foreigners in 1992, our pupils were among the first to stand up and call for tolerance," she says.

Frau Drimmer has no real fear that building up the Berlin Jewish community — there are Jewish cafes, self-help classes, lonely hearts evenings, and film shows — will provoke a backlash. Not, at least, in this scarred capital; in Eastern Europe where non-Jewish citizens are having to compete hard for scarce resources, there is plainly more tension.

The point of the Berlin Jewish educational project is to mend the damage done by official state-sponsored anti-Semitism in the

east. In the basement of the Jewish Community Centre — guarded as usual by police — Gesa Brus explains in vivid but sometimes faltering Russian the most basic of traditions and rituals to a full classroom of recent, middle-aged emigrants from Ukraine and Russia: men who wear baggy cardigans in August, women with gold teeth.

The course is sponsored by the Ron Lauder Foundation — set up by the heir to the Estée Lauder cosmetics empire — which is already backing the Jewish school in Budapest and helping to prop up the rotting wooden buildings in Auschwitz. The teacher leads the group in singing *Lecha Dodi* and, following the words in transcribed Russian letters (nobody reads Hebrew), the dislocated emigrants suddenly, in the heart of what used to be Adolf Hitler's capital, make the link with a tradition buried and forbidden by both the National Socialists and the Communists.



Grim echoes of the past — a young German neo-Nazi polishes his boots. Anti-Semitism is still an enduring force throughout Central and Eastern Europe

Oleksander has a face like a ploughed field: earthy brown with deep parallel furrows marked not so much by suffering as by the effort of opening and half closing his eyes in hard sunshine.

It is a country face, for Oleksander came from a farm to noisy, dirty Kiev. Home was a one-street village drained of memory by centuries of emigration. When Oleksander's wife died there

was nothing left; he moved to the Ukrainian capital, to distant cousins. He spends most of the day watching others play backgammon on a picnic table perched on one of Kiev's many cobbled streets.

"I worry about my son, the Jews have got to him," he says. "He's even wearing a yarmulke." For more than half a century it was regarded as folly to display one's Jewishness. *Zhid* was stamped in Jewish citizens' internal passports under the category of nationality, and everybody around knew it. But it became a problem only if the Jew turned into a political activist. If he tried to practise his faith openly or apply to emigrate, as Oleksander sees it, he survived through discretion. Now, the world has gone topsy-turvy.

There are even places in Kiev and Odessa where you can buy fake papers attesting to your Jewishness. Ukrainian Jews find reader acceptance in the West than ethnic Ukrainians. There are even Kiev doctors who will circumcise adults to bolster their claims. Some Jews are per- versely flattered — for Ukrainians to pretend to be Jews reverses centuries of anti-Semitism — but most are merely bemused.

The fact is that the Jewish communities in Ukraine have become a source of envy. Not because they are rich, but because they are dynamic, and in an era of drift, have a clear sense of direction. Most commentators agree that anti-Semitism does not whip up great passion in Ukraine. Chrystyna Lapychak, Ukrainian analyst for Radio Free Europe, says the focus of antagonism remains Russians rather than Jews. "Of course when people of Jewish origin are in power and making unpopular decisions, then there is hostile muttering," she says.

Yurii Zuyahilsky, the former acting Prime Minister under former President Leonid Kravchuk, is now living in Israel because of corruption allegations in Ukraine. In Kiev bars, it is common to curse the current President, Leonid Kuchma's Jewish chief of cabinet, Dmytro Tabachnyk. "The trouble really comes when workers start to blame their problems not only on the Russians, but also the Poles and the Jews," says a Kiev journalist.

This confusion of anti-Russianism and anti-Semi-



Jewish students at a Kiev synagogue — anti-Semitism is still low-key, but worrying

tism bubbles to the surface in various far-right groupings such as the Ukrainian National Assembly and its paramilitary wing, the Ukrainian Self-Defence. They are illegal but still find opportunities to parade in black shirts and make fascist salutes.

There are perhaps 6,000 members but they and other extremist groupings have a large following, especially in West Ukraine and Kiev. The line connecting all the neo-Fascists is the slogan, "Ukraine for the Ukrainians", but it is interpreted in different ways by different groups. Some call for quotas to be put on Russian and Jewish students. Bomb threats are common against Jewish schools and synagogues; gravestones are shattered, trams daubed with Stars of David. The old caricatures of the Jews as poisoners emerged recently when a far-right group blamed Jews for an accident that caused pollution of the water supply in Kharkov.

Most disturbing is the way that fringe anti-Semitism has begun to enter television news coverage. In neutral tones, a television broadcaster recently reported the meeting of the Ukrainian National Assembly and listed its aims of struggling against "Bolshe-

viks, Socialists, the Mafia, foreigners, Zionists, and others who try to derail Ukraine."

A news item about a fire engine which was unable to put out a fire because of lack of water suggested the Jews had drunk it. Another news programme featured abandoned tram cars occupied by tramps, who, in the words of the TV reporter, had nothing better to do than bake *matzot*.

None of this is very pleasant, but it is scattered. Even when one adds anti-Semitism within the professional classes — doctors who claim they are passed over for promotion because of their Jewish origins — there is no real explanation for why many more Ukrainian than Russian Jews now want to emigrate.

Germany's Development Minister, Carl Dieter Spranger — evidently informed by worried German Embassy officials — recently whipped up a storm by claiming that 800,000 Ukrainian Jews were ready to emigrate to Germany. He was quickly slapped down by the experts.

Professor Julius Schoeps, of Potsdam University, who has made a close study of Russian and Ukrainian Jews, says: "Only about 45,000 Ukrainian Jews have been taken in by Germany since 1991, and the total of Jews living in Ukraine is only around 245,000." But the fact remains that a head of steam is gathering behind Ukrainian emigration.

East European Jews are informed by history, by the uncertainties bred by a change of Tsar, by the rapid shift from grudging tolerance to outright violence. The word pogrom comes from the Russian root of *gromiti* — to destroy.

In 1649, a Cossack chieftain, Bogdan Chmielnicki, entered Kiev and the city of Tulchin, and ordered a hideously cruel massacre of the Jews. Pogroms in the century stopped

short of such bestiality, but thousands died.

The instant sympathy of Ukrainian nationalists for the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union, the participation of Ukrainians in SS divisions — all this has made the Jews sensitive to changing winds. The Ukrainian National Assembly has begun building a monument to the Ukrainian "heroes" who helped murder Jews during the Second World War.

The gestures made recently by the Ukrainian Government towards reconciliation with Israel and the relative protection offered to the new Jewish communities cannot quite cancel out this blood-soaked history.

A combination of economic uncertainty and historical

anxiety is enough to set Jews packing their cases again. Theirs is a history of migration. In 1988, in the windy seaside town of Ladiopol, north of Rome, I met Mischa Weintraub, from Odessa. The Jewish emigration organisation was keen that he and other members of the Gorbachev exodus move to Israel. Mischa wanted to go to America, and become rich. Eventually, he must have got his way.

We talked last week. He is called Mike now, owns a truck haulage company on the West Coast, and is thinking of setting his sister up with her own roadside café. But he is intrigued by what is happening in his little-loved homeland. "Maybe it's time to emigrate back again," he said. "I heard the dollar goes a long way in Kiev." As for anti-Semitism: "I'm not afraid, I'm an American now — and American Jews don't poison wells."

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TOMORROW

Anti-Semitism is dead, but the anti-Semites live on. Roger Boyes reports from Prague

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Memories of my unhappy father

Somerset Maugham's last years were marked by a public family feud which deeply hurt his only child. But her love for him remains undiminished

LADY Elizabeth Glendevon lives alone in affluent seclusion in Guernsey. A small woman in a large, rambling house, she protects her privacy fiercely. For more than 30 years she has spoken about her father, if at all, with profound reluctance — for she is the daughter whose paternity Somerset Maugham disclaimed.

She is cautious and guarded on the legal dispute that divided the family in the last years of Maugham's life. Journalists alarm her. They remind her of what she calls "the unhappiest period of an otherwise happy life".

That period was the early Sixties when the octogenarian Maugham, sinking lugubriously into senility and obsessed with his will and the disposition of his estate, attempted to exclude his daughter (and only child) from any future inheritance. "He claimed that his offspring had done nothing to deserve his money but to have been born," says his biographer, Robert Calder.

The only daughter from Maugham's marriage to the divorcee and society hostess Sybil Wellcome, Lady Glendevon, now 81, remembers the aged Maugham as a "sad and disturbed man". And yet, despite what she calls her "enduring hurt", her memories of her father are largely good. She speaks about him with fondness. In particular, she remembers his kindness to her as a child.

"Whenever he was home he used to read to me — Kipling and his other favourites — before I went to sleep. I treasured those moments. And after the divorce, when he was living in France, whenever he came to London he took me to lunch at Claridges, or to the theatre."

The Glendevons have always resolutely insisted that it was not Maugham but his secretary and companion of 35 years, Alan Searle, who instigated the feud. Searle is portrayed in several biographies as in the words of Robert Calder, a grasping, self-seeking scoundrel who manipulated a senile old man in order to gain his estate. Maugham's nephew, the late Robin Maugham, was more sympathetic to Searle, but thought that his uncle was vulnerably deranged at the time of the legal action: "He had this ghastly fear that he had sold his soul to the devil and the devil was coming to get him."

The family dispute began in 1962 when Maugham sold, in an auction at Sotheby's, his collection of paintings, including Picasso's *Death of a Harlequin* and Matisse's *The Yellow Chair*. The paintings raised \$15 million. Lady Glendevon retaliated by successfully suing for the proceeds of nine paintings, valued at £231,750, that had been assigned to her in a deed.

Maugham, who Lady



"Wherever we went we were hounded by reporters": Lady Glendevon today and (above right) being given away by Somerset Maugham on the day of her first wedding; below, a portrait of her by Cecil Beaton



Glendevon thinks was by this time suffering from Alzheimer's, responded by seeking to disown his daughter and adopt as his son Alan Searle. Although the adoption was contested and nullified by a French court, Searle eventually inherited £50,000, the contents of Maugham's Villa Mauresque in Cap Ferrat and, most crucially, his manuscripts and the copyright on his work for 30 years.

When Searle died in August 1985, the lucrative copyrights passed not to Lady Glendevon but to the Royal Literary Fund. "They should have been mine," Lady Glendevon says, fixing me with a steely gaze. "I had them once, you know."

Lady Glendevon was widowed in January. Married for 38 years to Lord John Hope, the former Conservative MP and younger twin son of the 2nd Marquess of Linlithgow (he was created Lord Glendevon in 1964), she is moving back to London in September. She wants to be closer to her children — Nicholas and Camilla from her first marriage, to Vincent Paravicini, and Julian and Jonathan.

"I have bought a flat in Eaton Square. It has a frightfully small garden but it will give my little dog a place in which to run," she says, leading me from the sunlight of the garden, past a cabinet of deteriorating Maugham first editions in the hallway and into the long shadows of her drawing room. A distinguished, handsome woman, her light voice echoes in the open spaces around her. Her diction, with its clipped vowels and archaic adverbs, is redolent of a more genteel age.

She is frail but not vulnerable. Her eyes are shrewd. She tells me repeatedly how much she dislikes journalists. She has good cause. "The press made my life a misery during the period of the difficulties with my father," she says. "They wouldn't leave me alone. Wherever we went we were hounded by reporters and photographers: they used to wait outside our house in Chelsea Square. One reporter used to leave his finger continually on the bell. It was horrendous."

After eventually reaching a settlement, under which Lady Glendevon received £100,000 plus costs after renouncing any further claim she might have on her father's estate as his daughter, Lady Glendevon went to see Maugham. She knew he was dying but wanted to make her peace.

The Maugham she found was not the father she had loved. "I wanted to say farewell and make everything all right with him but he didn't know who I was. He was very ill — I think he probably had Alzheimer's but no one knew about that then. His condition was made worse by the fact that you-know-who [she refuses to name Searle] had poured poison in his ear. Without his awful influence my father would have been simply gaga. Instead, he became paranoid: he was convinced that I wanted to have him certified. Whenever he heard a car on the drive he thought he was going to be taken into a home. I'm afraid his mind had been poisoned."

Elizabeth Mary Maugham was born on May 6, 1915. She was educated by various governesses and at the Miss Spalding School in Queensgate, London. "There was never any question of my going to university or of pursuing a career," she recalls with soft laughter. "That wasn't what women did in those days." Or, perhaps she should have said, what women of a certain class did. For her antecedents were notable. Her maternal grandfather was Dr Barnardo; her paternal grandfather, Robert Maugham, was solicitor to the British Embassy in Paris; and her mother's first husband was the eminent chemist Henry Wellcome.

The young Liza grew up surrounded by writers, painters, minor royalty, exotic baronets: her teenage years were an "endless round of parties" in fabulous houses. She married Vincent Paravicini, son of the Swiss Ambassador to Britain, when she was only 19. They divorced in 1946. "Our marriage could not withstand a separation of four years brought about by the war," Lady Glendevon says. "We always remained good friends, though."

Summers were spent at their country house near Boulogne. "My mother was extremely good at mixing different kinds of people, so that at our country house parties there would be artists, writers and society types." She remembers Coward composing songs on her piano. "Noel wrote several songs while staying with us. I used to sit goggle-eyed watching him as he composed at the piano. He was frightfully charming."

Her parents divorced when she was just 12. Maugham, a veiled though promiscuous homosexual, had fallen in love with Gerald Haxton, a hard-drinking American he met while serving as a driver and dresser in a Red Cross ambulance unit in France during the Second World War.

Maugham was 40, Haxton was in his early twenties; they stayed together for 30 years, living mainly in the south of France.



as "odd, watchful and intensely secretive". Waugh was peppy and caustic. "He was really rather a difficult man, especially when he'd had a few drinks. He had this air of intellectual superiority and was awfully sarcastic."

She is, however, prepared to speak about Maugham's attitude to her mother. "I am sure that he loved her and there were times when they were very happy together. They were essentially two different people. He spent an awful lot of time abroad, travelling in the South Pacific and living in France. And my mother was busy with her parties, and

later with her work as an interior designer. I suppose, even when they were married, they lived separate lives."

In Robin Maugham's memoir of his uncle, *Conversations with Willie*, he poignantly describes how shortly before Sybil's death she met her former husband at the Dorchester. The meeting was short and tense. Sybil told Maugham that she still loved him, but the writer was imperiously unmoved: "You don't love me — you can't — because you've never known me." Lady Glendevon believes her mother never stopped loving Maugham.

After the divorce, Lady Glendevon moved with her mother from their house in Bryanston Square, near Marble Arch, to a "rather lovely" house in Chelsea, where Sybil continued to host parties.

Curiously, Lady Glendevon says that she was only "briefly upset" by her parents' divorce. "I certainly didn't break my heart. This was because when they were married I saw my father infrequently. He travelled so much that I got used to not having him around."

very moved but also appalled by what I saw."

Maugham has an almost archival presence in English literature: the wild glamour and excesses of the life are remembered more than the work. This is a shame because, as Lady Glendevon points out, his fiction has brought pleasure to millions.

As Lady Glendevon prepares to leave the house she loves to return to a city she no longer "knows nor understands", she explains one last time how she feels no bitterness towards her father.

"I feel no anger towards him over what happened. He was a marvellous writer, absolutely dedicated to his art. I am sorry that he is no longer taken as seriously as he once was but I'm sure he will be read."

"We did love each other, you know. I was closer to my mother, as girls tend to be, but I was very fond of him, and he was fond of me until he went mad."

Later, following her own divorce, Lady Glendevon would take her children, Nicholas and Camilla, who is now married to the champagne heir Count Frederic Chandon, to see Maugham in Cap Ferrat. She remembers Maugham being haunted by the memory of his mother, who died when he was just eight. "He absolutely adored his mother. Once when I was staying with him — he was already into his eighties — he did a most curious thing. I was in his sitting room when he told me to wait while he went upstairs. When he came down he was holding a long strand of his mother's hair — he'd kept it all those years. I was

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



■ VISUAL ART

Richard Wilson creates mayhem in the Serpentine Gallery, prior to its redevelopment
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ DANCE

The Coliseum hosts a London season by Mikhail Baryshnikov and his company
FIRST NIGHT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



■ MUSIC

Anne-Sophie Mutter plays Brahms with the New York Phil at the Albert Hall
PROM: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ THEATRE

Kiss the Sky, Jim Cartwright's "psychedelic musical", opens at the Shepherd's Bush Empire
FIRST NIGHT: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

Pulp put the fizz in Essex's big day

POP: Paul Sexton peers through a Chelmsford wood at the V96 festival's parade of British talent

The V96 event takes its name inevitably in these days of the corporate endorsement, from the sponsorship of Virgin Cola, whose presence in the sentence you are reading helps to explain why it pays a fizzy drink manufacturer to be associated with such an event. Not to mention that it brings a new meaning to the phrase pop festival.

Day one of this 14-act extravaganza, also featuring a circus and the usual collection of motley market stalls, then moved lock, stock and barrel up the M6 to visit itself yesterday upon the town of Warrington. It's a long way from the days of the Motown Revue travelling city to city by bus to the next Odeon engagement, but there's something mildly endearing about the idea of such community spirit among Britain's top stage turns of the moment.

Furthermore, it is hard to snipe at the Chelmsford event when the chief inconvenience seemed to be the number of trees in Hylands Park, which obliged some of the throng to peek beatifically through the branches for a glimpse of the action. From lunchtime onwards, there was never a moment with nothing to watch on one or other of the stages, and a commendable collation of British talent it was too, with the addition of honorary Brit Jonathan Richman on the early afternoon bill.

He at least would have made Gary Numan feel a touch less incongruous among a line-up and an audience some of whom were not born when first his marauding synthesizers went on the prowl in the late 1970s. At least one punter, gamely decked out in a "Beserker Tour 1984" T-shirt and white jeans, had made the journey with him, and while Numan may have

become a benign presence, he still plays his part with conviction: in *Cars* he sent a ripple through the trees with one of the most enduring British pop songs of the past two decades.

On the smaller stage, Welsh guitar-wielders *Super Furry Animals* put in a solid performance, especially on *Hometown Unicorn*.

6 Splendidly squalid tales of the most mangy aspects of modern romance

The debut single that marked their card earlier this year. But four-girl neo-punks *Fluffy* showed that, while they have listened to all the right records from 1977 and before, they have little idea how to use them to their advantage.

Liverpool's *Cast* are strongly retro by nature, but chiefly in that their sole songwriter, John Power, understands that credibility need not fly south when a good tune comes along. Thus their music truly becomes a Merseybeat for the Nineties, celebrated here with full-flavour hits such as *Finetime* and *Alright* and other selections from their *All Change* album.

Heavy *Stereo* employed the standard rock four-way attack, but to good effect with a confident guitar barrage on *Sleep Freak*. Cartoon Moon and others from the upcoming *Deja Voodoo* album debut. *Elastica*, headlining the second stage, may have been due

an allowance as their performance marked the British debut of two new players, bassist Sheila Chipperfield and keyboard player Dave Bush. But their set contained several of their familiar musical frailties, particularly a guitar note in *Waking Up* that was not just bum but positively homeless.

Supergrass, though, had some excellent new tricks up their sleeve. As suggested by their only release of 1996 so far, March's *Going Out* single, the Brit-winning trio are now sharpening their cutting edge with the addition of horns. Here, the Hornography ensemble brought great texture to the new compositions *It's Not Me* and *Richard III*. *Supergrass's* credentials as an uncomplicated good-time band are still intact.

But rarely can the expectation of one band have dominated a day as did Pulp's presence at the top of the bill. Especially as we hear that these shows will be the last for some months by the group whose ingenious combination of urbane theatricality and world-weary provinciality has captured the mood of a pop generation.

Pulp's set was twice as long, twice as grandly staged, twice as audacious as anybody else's. Jarvis Cocker's extravagant thespianism successfully walked the tightrope between the corn and the credible. Such splendidly squalid tales of the most mangy aspects of modern romance could, it seems, only come from England and they could only come now, and Cocker was at his voyeuristic best on *I Spy* and *Pencil Skirt*, pausing to introduce an eccentric new song called *Help The Aged* before leading the company through Pulp's rallying cry, *Common People*. The fireworks went off, and the trees shook in approval.



Pulp's Jarvis Cocker, whose extravagant thespianism successfully walked the tightrope between the corn and the credible

First thoughts roundly revealed

BBC PROMS

Leonore
Albert Hall/Radio 3

offers less mature commentary on the human condition. But wonderful extra numbers, and fuller versions of well-known ones, flesh out the characters, even if Beethoven's symphonic thinking sometimes impedes the drama.

Alas, if the first object of this performance was to reveal the greatness of half-familiar music, then the semi-staging was an own goal. Annabel Arden started from the basically bright idea of a production "in the round", a democratic way of doing things in the Albert Hall's arena. But singers moved from one mini-platform to another, circling the orchestra — and, as they turned, their lines came and went. In the faster numbers almost every

phrase was unevenly projected, without any dramatic advantages (even this young, handsome cast was not best viewed from behind). The simple staging — a handful of props — worked better at static moments, and the prisoners' chorus and dungeon scenes were movingly managed.

Forced to work hard, most singers met the challenge. When Hillel Martindale's *Leonore* was allowed to stand still she disclosed gleaming tone, well matched to Kim Begley's keenly-sung Florestan. Christiane Oelze's bright soprano made her a good Marzelline. Michael Schade was an adequate Jaquino, but Matthew Best's growling Pizarro was one-dimensional. Rocco emerged an unusually interesting character in Franz Hawn's affectionately drawn, strongly sung portrait.

There were moments when intonation sagged, but from the start of the grim *Leonore Overture No. 2* Gardiner galvanised his *Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique*. In a better staging these performers might have shown how Beethoven got his opera right first time round.

JOHN ALLISON

Bach unplugged

EARLY MUSIC

New London Consort
Queen Elizabeth Hall

TO CRAM all six of Bach's concertos for two or more harpsichords into one programme had more appeal in theory than in practice. It was one of the week of early music concerts on the South Bank in competition with the Proms and it evidently delighted its own band of enthusiasts.

The four harpsichords, three copied from French models and one of Flemish origin, their cases coloured red, blue, green and ivory respectively, were set in a semicircle behind the five solo strings of the New London Consort. Such a balance was a far cry from the 1950s when Eileen Joyce would team up with Thurston Dart, George Malcolm and others to be heard well amplified against a full string orchestra.

Although microphones were visibly in evidence for each keyboard here, they must have been for recording purposes only, leaving the audience hearing a natural sound which, in the triple concertos particularly, tended to confine the keyboard figuration to a subdued muttering behind the strings. David Roblou, who took his place as one of the harpsichordists as well as directing the performances, kept the rhythms well strung for the most part and the tempos lively but unfurled.

His keyboard colleagues, Richard Egarr in all the concertos, Gary Cooper and Paul Nicholson in some, were best heard to multiple effect in the A minor quadruple concerto derived from Vivaldi, where the blended texture was kept well ventilated to let the separate strands be heard to decorative purpose, especially in the large movement, and the cheerful triple-beat finale engaged the strings in beguiling give-and-take.

Elsewhere the strings were notably lucid in the pizzicato adagio of the C minor double concerto, and in the brisk and lively *fuga* of its C major companion. More lit would not have come amiss to spur on the *alla staccata* of the D minor triple concerto, which sounded too much like a waltz, but all together one could admire the overall style while sometimes wishing for more contrast and texture than the programme allowed.

NOEL GOODWIN

The plot thickens — then sets

I don't know about the love, but there was certainly much lust looking for satisfaction in the bosky avenues of St James's Park 300 years ago. While today's Londoners have to go all the way up to Hampstead Heath for all fresco merriment, an amorous widow such as Lady Flippant "in search of a satyr" had only to stroll a few yards west of the

THEATRE

Love in a Wood
New End, NW3

White Hall. The downside of this convenience seems to have been that flirts and libertines might find themselves accosted by mistake the persons who genuinely loved them. That is, if Wycheley is to be believed in the complications he chronicles in this, his first play.

There are passages that sound like a template for all the convoluted amorous intrigues in every Restoration comedy that followed. Sir Simon Addleplot disguises himself as an obsequious clerk in order to further his scheme to marry a skinklin's daughter. To add to his plot further he urges the girl to consider marrying Mr Dapperwit, who is discarding Lady Flippant in order to pursue Lucy, whose supposed innocence has attracted Alderman Gripe, the skinklin.



Amanda Osborne as the amorous Lady Flippant gets cosy with Ranger (Christopher Gilling) in *Love in a Wood*

As if this were not enough for us, a further cluster of adventures concern young Ranger's pursuit of a young heiress who changes cloaks with another heiress and is thenceforward pursued, to the rage of the second heiress's

lover, who fled abroad after a duel but has secretly returned home. Dazed by all these twists I echoed the comment from Christopher Gilling's Ranger, the play's dashing heroic hunk: "When we are giddy 'tis time to stand still."

The play's conclusion suggests that Wycheley is trying to redefine matrimony as a state of liberty, not bondage, although none of the four marriages in the last act looks likely to discover any truth in this.

There is enough sprightly wordplay to make the London Classic Theatre's revival pleasant enough, despite being a couple of complications too long. Last year's Restoration comedy — they are annual events at this venue — made a garish attempt to modernise the play through costume changes. Michael Cabor's happier device is to introduce apt snapshots from Judy Garland, Tammy Wynette and others between scenes. Thus Eartha Kitt finds love under a lilac tree just before the action moves to the woods.

There are good performances from Anna Kirke's pinched matchmaker, Mrs Joiner, spying on the verbal foreplay from the side of the stage, and from Alexander Rickard as a timid but faithful friend, Amanda Osborne's Lady Flippant spreads her haughty reproofs with honey; and when Addleplot is finally thwarted Jason Baughan throws himself into such uninhibited dismay that his knees turn to rubber and he finishes with his face in the carpet. Needless to say, when he gets to his feet he tells us "I have devised a revenge", but that's your Restoration comedy.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Tragedy of guerrillas in the myth

Electra
Dublin

Kathleen Desmond's new version of *Electra* at Andrews Lane Theatre introduces some clever translations as it replays the Greek tragedy in a pre-ceasefire Belfast. Orestes becomes Ollie, recently returned from across the Atlantic with his scavenging photojournalist pal Perez. Clytemnestra becomes Cynthia, ostracised from the McAleese family after marrying an RUC officer, while Electra is reincarnated in the form of Elizabeth "Ellie" McAleese, a zealous terrorist with a fiery temper, a long memory and a tendency to whip off her rights and throttle people with them at the least provocation.

Naive Ollie (Les Martin) soon begins to display confused republican sympathies when he receives an unexpectedly warm welcome in the community that once honoured his father, a mur-

dered paramilitary hero. Merciless Ellie (Abbie Spallen) remorselessly exploits her brother's desire to get involved with the republican cause, and the tragedy ripens when she sends him across the tracks to avenge their father's murder.

With the formalities in place, Desmond sets off to explore the effects which a climate of violence has on everyday relationships, shifting the emphasis away from sectarian strife and towards domestic power struggles. "The Troubles" roar around them, the talk is of brutal police interrogations and equally brutal punishment attacks, but the conflicts that engulf the McAleese household have long since detached themselves from the war.

Caroline Lynch's spare staging could easily have been more courageous. Although the space is left fairly uncluttered, filled only by a handful of black chairs and the occasional slide projection, the director sometimes seems to lose confidence and lurch towards naturalism. Performances, too, were short on consistency and several lapses in concentration were evident. Spallen delivers Ellie as a credibly violent psychotic, but her habit of staring into the middle distance in moments of passion is simply distracting.

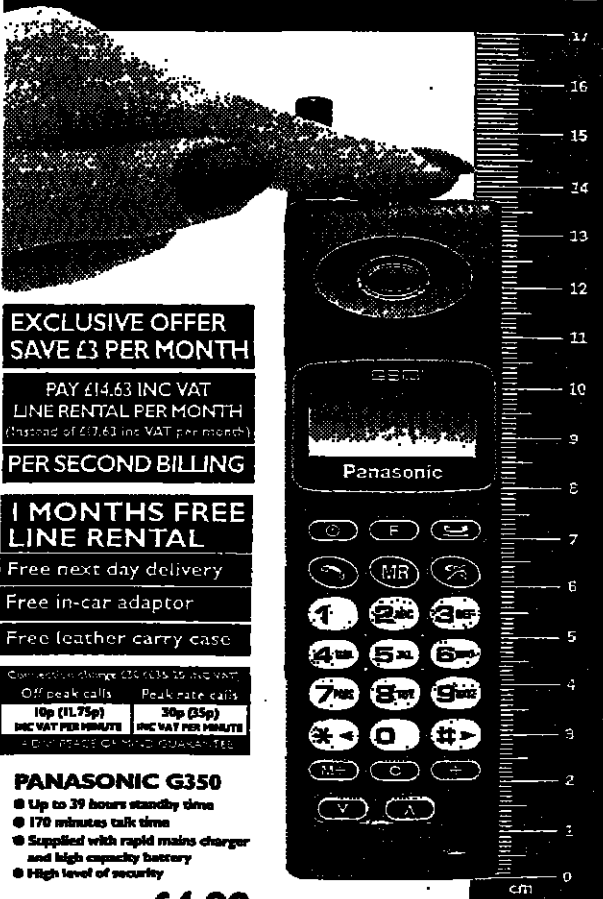
The production's salvation comes in the form of Eithne McGuinness as Ellie's guardian, Cassy. McGuinness's small performance draws in all the threads that the dramatist has so carefully left lying unravelled around the stage. Sex and violence are certainly linked in the McAleese household but it takes frumpy,

downtrodden Cassy to give the link dramatic form. As Perez crawls around her with his camera, snapping images, she blandly expounds the woes of her city and the sexual undertones of the violence around her, pausing only momentarily as the shutter opens, to bare her teeth in the freshest, most resilient of smiles.

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Matthew Parris



■ When it comes to the next election, I am no longer sure I shall win the bet I really want to lose

About a year ago, I bet a friend a very substantial sum that Labour would not only win the next election, but walk it. By 25 seats or more, I said. My friend disagreed.

Neither of us was betting on his own hopes. I was, and remain, a supporter of John Major, but I despised of the Parliamentary Conservative Party. It was behaving like an absolute shower. This, plus the persuasiveness of Tony Blair, and the nation's weariness with Tory rule, would, I thought, spell disaster for Mr Major, regardless of his talents.

When he sank at the election, the winnings from my bet would help to cheer me up. Or that was the plan. Now I am not so sure. Before an autumn or spring poll, you will be served with a feast of statistical reasoning, and psychological argument, and I do not plan to add to it. I do, however, have an argument which I am not sure has yet been made, but will be. It could prove potent in altering voters' intentions.

Often we extrapolate graph lines without thinking how extrapolations themselves may influence voters' intentions. Contrary to Major's view that he was ahead during the last days of the last election, I believe Neil Kinnock moved into the lead. It was the shock of realising that we were about to elect a Labour government that tipped that critical number of voters Major's way at the last minute.

The nation's belief that Major was losing actually won it for him. It was when he looked like the loser that minds were concentrated on Mr Kinnock.

I had not until recently believed that this paradox could come to Major's aid this time, because Blair in person does not (despite the best efforts of Tory demonisers) unsettle many voters. It is the Parliamentary Labour Party that unsettles them, but attention at election time tends to focus on leaders, not on the backbench herd.

Something may change that. The Tories are, we guess, 12-20 points behind Labour at present. Most commentators think the gap will narrow, but not enough to wipe away all Labour's lead within the eight months (at most) that is left.

It need not. Once that gap reduces, if it does, to single figures, a new cry goes up: "It's going to be close!" — and once the electorate come to believe that, our thoughts turn to the likelihood of a Labour government with a small majority. "Tony Blair, in by 15 or 16" becomes the thought. This will be the new topic for discussion. Commentators and Tory publicists will begin to talk quite plausibly about threats from the Labour Left, the Labour malcon-

ments, the trades unions, and the unreconstructed "old" Labour majority.

Such forces, it will be argued, would be able to hold to ransom a Labour chief whip sustained by only a narrow parliamentary majority.

And then the Liberal Democrats start to get excited. Assorted loose cannons in that party begin making contradictory statements about the demands and conditions which might attach to their support. "Vote Liberal Democrat" becomes their cry, "and save Prime Minister Blair from the frightening elements within his own party." The third party gains an interest in exposing the vulnerabilities of the second.

Coalitions, deals, factions, knife edge negotiations... I believe this kind of talk turns off the electorate in a big way. As the gap narrows, there is ever more plausibility about the spectre which Conservative Central Office always hoped to raise — until now forlornly — of an administration characterised by a besieged cabal of "new" Labour at the mercy of Blair's personal and ideological enemies within his party. So the narrowness of the gap itself becomes a force to narrow it further.

None of this is wholly rational. In many circumstances a Tory Opposition could be relied upon to rescue Mr Blair, in tight Commons votes, from the rump of his own party. And the premise that a Labour government with a small majority would be the worst of all worlds could logically be used to invite us to give Blair a big majority. So long as this appears within his grasp, it will be argued that we can relax. But what if...

Media commentators, I believe (and I include myself in this criticism), spend too much time these days thinking about, talking to and writing about party leaders. Less and less do we notice the Commons chamber itself, and when we do we tend to pool-pool. We pool-pool Bill Cash, we did not dine with Teddy Taylor. We did not take Clare Short too seriously, at first. And frankly we cannot remember the names of a good many of the Labour backbenchers we too readily characterise as a sort of terracotta army: faceless, disposable, deployable at will by the high command.

But the electorate knows what the press lobby sometimes forgets, that Britain does not yet have a presidential system of government. Parties matter, floating voters reconciled to Blair may still be worried about those on whom he must rely to sustain an administration. As the opinion polls narrow, those worries may grow, narrowing them further.

Unfortunately, the mysterious lady is no longer available for interview. The author of the book is defensive. "She doesn't identify. She is now an elderly and respectable lady who sits on all sorts of committees. She wouldn't want it to be known that during the war she went around killing people."

David Jenkins, whose cathedral was struck by lightning at the height of his controversial stint as the Bishop of Durham, has found himself a new job on a cruise ship. Jenkins, who got the dander up on many church-goers with his provocative views, is to be a guest

In the first part of a series, Robert Blake looks at the history of disastrous Conservative divisions

A party divided against itself

Under the present British electoral system, a united party may not win an election but it is a safe bet that a divided one will lose. This might not be so true if we had some sort of proportional representation. Even under the current system, a divided party can win if its opponents are also divided. In 1922, a divided Conservative party managed on a minority vote to defeat an Opposition split between Labour and two feuding Liberal factions. This was a stroke of luck; it is unlikely to be repeated.

Of all parties, the Conservatives should be the most conscious of the value of unity. In 1846, Peel, who was a great statesman but a bad politician, took his unsuspecting followers by surprise when he proposed to repeal the Corn Laws. Economically he was right — free trade was the basis of Britain's commercial success for the rest of the century — but the "landed interest", backbone of his party, believed (wrongly as things turned out) that it would be ruined. Like many party leaders, Peel regarded his followers with intellectual contempt, and he lacked the diplomatic skill and perhaps the inclination to persuade them. The majority repudiated him. They were the ancestors of the modern Conservative Party.

Earlier, Peel had written: "To be the tool of a party — that is to say, to adopt the opinions of men who have not access to your knowledge and could not profit by it if they had, who spend their time in eating and drinking, and hunting, shooting, gambling, horse-racing, and so forth — would be an odious servitude to which I will never submit." It is perhaps symbolic that the revolt

which dethroned him was led, not by Disraeli as most people believe (he was an adjutant then, not a commander), but by two of the most famous figures of the Turf, Lord George Bentinck and Edward Stanley, the future 14th Earl of Derby and Prime Minister. But it was Disraeli whose sardonic, satirical, acidic oratory made the running. He was a master of the sound-bite. His invective was never forgotten — nor, by his enemies, forgiven. In the leaden pages of Hansard, his words glitter like diamonds — paste perhaps, but eye-catching all the same.

Bentinck died soon after. Derby was in the Lords. It fell to Disraeli, reluctantly accepted as leader in the Commons of the "gentleman of Old England", to reconstruct the party he had helped to destroy. It took him a long time. The rebellion against Peel cost the party 28 years of opposition, punctuated by three fleeting minority Governments. It was not until 1874 that Disraeli was able to form a Cabinet supported by more than half the Commons. By then he had new men and new policies, especially on social reform and the concept of "One Nation" (which though not his phrase was his practice). Despite, or perhaps

because of his exotic ancestry, he was a passionate English nationalist, and this is his other legacy to his party. Both are relevant today.

The Corn Law crisis cast a long shadow. Unity at almost any price became a shibboleth, strengthened by the disastrous divisions among the Liberals over Gladstone's espousal of

remarkably similar to those which have been vexing the party over Europe since 1990: resignations, facelessness, complicated compromises, elaborate efforts by the leader to paper over the cracks and reconcile the contestants. Balfour failed and the party crashed in 1906 to the worst defeat in its history.

The lesson of 1846 had to be relearned. Balfour's successor was Bonar Law, whose ultimate principle was that the party must not be broken up. He managed to keep it together during the First World War, whereas the Liberals disintegrated. He and Baldwin were helped by a generational change. The old guard faded out; new ideas were in the air. The party was able to regroup and reorganise in something like the way it had under Disraeli, helped by an Opposition divided between Labour and the Liberals. There were Tory divisions, notably in the 1930s over India and Munich, but the splinter groups were too small to matter. Superficially at least, the party remained united through the war, although there was much private discontent with Churchill's leadership. The appearance of unity did not

save the party in 1945, but it is difficult to see what could have done so at that stage. Absence of public dissension is not a guarantee of success, but it is a help, and in the years after the war the Conservatives were generally better at presenting a united front than Labour. There were, it is true, divisions about personalities in 1963-64, which probably contributed to Labour's narrow win. The same applies to the run-up to the second election of 1974, which resulted in another narrow Labour victory and the deposition of Edward Heath.

Historically, the Conservatives have been seriously fragmented only when there is a question of policy so important and divisive that a really substantial group feels that a grave national interest is at stake. This was so in 1846 and 1905. The European question is the modern equivalent of the Corn Law and Tariff Reform disputes, when appeals against rocking the boat no longer worked because some Tories no longer cared. The European common currency has become the symbolic issue, as allegedly a step towards a European federal superstate. Whether it is that or not, a lot of people believe it is, and that Britain's existence as a nation-state rather than a Texas or a Bavaria is under threat.

This is not simply a technical economic issue. It is an essential political one. If the Prime Minister can reconcile the opponents he will have shown a greater skill than either Peel or Balfour. But time is short, and if he cannot, electoral disaster looms ahead.

John Grigg and John Charmley will be writing later in the week.

THE TORIES IN OPPOSITION

Irish Home Rule in 1885. For 20 years under Salisbury, the Conservatives seemed to be the natural party of government. But he was succeeded by Balfour, who once said "I cannot become another Robert Peel in my party", and under him a split occurred almost as damaging as that of 1840. This was caused by Joseph Chamberlain's crusade for Tariff Reform, meaning preferential import duties on Empire products, which alienated the traditional free traders. Though the issues were different, the political troubles that followed were

Watchdogs with teeth

Peter Riddell argues that the Government should welcome tough regulators

Consumers should be celebrating. Regulators of the gas, electricity, water and telecommunications utilities are being more aggressive. This should mean lower prices, but it could also have implications for Labour as well as the Tories. One of the most significant political events of August — largely ignored outside the business pages — has been the decision by the water and electricity regulators to criticise the pay and perks of some utility executives.

The pronouncements of the regulators — Don Cruickshank for telecommunications, Stephen Littlechild for electricity, Clare Spottiswoode for gas and Ian Byatt for water — are followed far more closely by the City than the views of most ministers. The regulators can reshape industries, and have done so, yet they are a constitutional anomaly, public officials semi-independent of government, but not really accountable to anyone, least of all to Parliament.

The existence of these regulators — and similar ones responsible for the railways, the National Lottery and the like — reflects the central paradox of privatisation. The Tories wanted to shift nationalised industries out of the public sector, yet government could not wash its hands entirely, since most remained monopolies. Hence, the regulators were invented. They were to be at arm's length — sufficiently distant from Whitehall to reassure City markets that ministers would not be interfering all the time — but they were to have powers enough to reassure the public that services and prices would be monitored and competition encouraged.

The removal of direct Whitehall control has brought better management and innovation, improved customer services (with the important exception of parts of the water industry) and lower prices. Since privatisation, the real, inflation-adjusted price of telecommunications



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

has fallen by 44 per cent, while domestic buyers of gas are paying a quarter less, and those of electricity a tenth less. These gains, however, have been partially offset by a rise in nearly two-fifths in household water bills in real terms. Shareholders and top managers have enjoyed even bigger benefits than customers.

In one sense, privatisation has worked too well. Efficiency gains from reducing costs and staff, as reflected in higher profits and dividends, have looked all too large. The pricing formulas have turned out to be lax. Utilities have been deliberately cautious in their estimates of costs and spending, as was exposed last year when Northern Electric suddenly discovered hundreds of millions to pay to shareholders when faced with an unwelcome takeover. At present, such "excess" profits can only be removed at the end of the five-year period when new pricing rules are established, although Labour has suggested profit-sharing, under which the benefits of increased efficiency would be passed at the time

to consumers as well as shareholders.

The regulators have been drawn over the past 18 months into bitter battles with the companies as they try to secure a better deal for consumers in terms of prices and, in the case of water companies such as Yorkshire, services. The stakes are often high, as will be seen again on Wednesday when Ms Spottiswoode announces the final price proposals for TransCo, the pipeline subsidiary of British Gas. Her initial suggestion of a 28 per cent price cut could have reduced its annual revenues by £300 million. An anonymous dossier last year even spread the sinister suggestion that the regulators are under the influence of "the Austrian school" of economists. But then so are most economists, fortunately for consumers, since the "Austrian school" gives top priority to competition.

Public resentment has been increased by generous bonus and incentive arrangements, which have

given some directors windfall gains running into hundreds of thousands, even millions of pounds, as when the National Grid was floated last year. These huge gains were unrelated to the performance of the directors, but reflected the company's monopoly.

Initially, the regulators stayed clear of arguments about pay, and the sound-bite populism of Labour spokesmen. But the regulators have now become involved, on efficiency rather than egalitarian grounds. Mr Byatt was reported last week to have urged institutional shareholders to do more to curb pay and perks in the water companies, while Professor Littlechild emphasised the high remuneration levels when he proposed big cuts in the National Grid's prices.

The long-term answer is more competition. Telecommunications markets are developing rapidly and becoming more competitive, but the energy market is more complicated. In a farewell speech before his resignation as Industry and Energy Minister last month, Tim Eggar conceded that when the utilities were

privatised "we did not fully appreciate how important it was actively to promote competition". The Treasury believed that proceeds would be maximised if the utilities were sold in their existing form, as monopolies (a partial exception being the split of electricity generation between two companies). Now that has changed. Full competition in domestic gas supply will start in 1998, and a pilot scheme is already under way in the South West. Meanwhile, the electricity distributors are being pushed, in some cases reluctantly, to accept full competition in 1998 as well.

The need for regulation should decline. In both telecoms and gas, the recent price controls may be the last. However, the transition could be long and there will still be monopoly transmission networks that require monitoring. So the regulators will remain. They are operating as much in the political arena as any minister, and it is naive to believe they can or should be depoliticised. As with the role of the Bank of England in setting interest rates, the real question is where to draw the lines of accountability, and this issue is to be examined by two Commons committees, and is already under the scrutiny of an independent inquiry. The present personalised system of regulation could be replaced by boards, or even a college of all the regulators. There is also a strong case for Commons select committees being more involved in vetting appointments and in reviews of the regulators' annual reports.

The more aggressive approach of the regulators and the moves towards competition in energy are both mixed blessings for Labour. The party favours a modified form of the present system, making it more transparent and tilting it more towards consumer, and it wants more competition. However, Labour has been relying on the "fat cat" abuses, both as a campaigning target and to justify its proposed £3 billion windfall levy on the utilities, which it needs to finance its youth unemployment package. The latest decisions by the regulators will not remove all "excess" profits, but they do weaken Labour's case. The Government is missing some tricks. It ought to be welcoming the regulators' activism as a means to highlight privatisation, which has been one of its few big successes since 1979.

Nazi trailer

DETERMINED to shore up the amazing claim in a book by John Ainsworth-Davies that Martin Bormann, the Nazi Party Secretary, was smuggled into Britain from Germany just as the Red Army was about to enter Berlin, publishers, Simon & Schuster, arranged a secret meeting with a former Wren who apparently helped in this operation.

In order to substantiate his extraordinary story, to be published

shortly, the author offered to produce the woman who he says, along with James Bond author Ian Fleming, played a crucial role in the operation. The woman the book calls "Susan Kemp" was duly paraded before some of the publishing house's directors, but even they admit to scepticism.

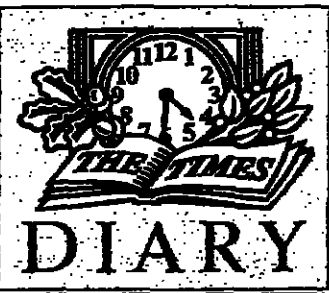
"She was certainly very plausible," says one, "but unfortunately she did not produce proof of involvement, so really we are no further forward."

Unfortunately, the mysterious lady is no longer available for interview. The author of the book is defensive. "She doesn't identify. She is now an elderly and respectable lady who sits on all sorts of committees. She wouldn't want it to be known that during the war she went around killing people."

David Jenkins, whose cathedral was struck by lightning at the height of his controversial stint as the Bishop of Durham, has found himself a new job on a cruise ship. Jenkins, who got the dander up on many church-goers with his provocative views, is to be a guest



Fleming: undercover story



lecturer on Swan Hellenic's winter cruise around Singapore, Malaysia and Sri Lanka on the floating pulpit SS Minerva. He will be joined by a bevy of other bishops, including those of Bristol and Oxford.

Proper job

HIS FOREBARS fought battles, built stately homes and married heiresses around the world, but Lord Edward Spencer-Churchill, the second son of the Duke of Marlborough, has chosen a more conventional path. Having finished his degree in economics at Pembroke College, Cambridge, he is about to take up a thoroughly modern job as a management consultant with the American company Bain & Co.

Spencer-Churchill, known as "Specky" to his friends, has set high standards within his clan, although his behaviour has seemed all the cleaner cut by contrast with the shenanigans of his older brother, the Marquis of Blandford. The present Duke has worked mightily to ensure that even though Blandford must inherit the title, control of the bulk of the estate, including Blenheim, will be transferred to the more sober Spencer-Churchill.

Being a former oarsman and a keen shot, he should fit in well at Bain, where it's not unknown for new recruits to be slapped on the back by an athletic American male and told, "There is no 'I' in team."

Yap happy

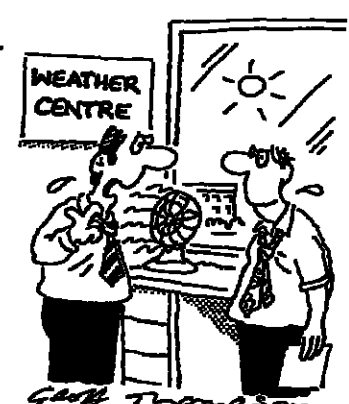
THE QUEEN has had trouble with more than one kind of royal snapper in the past. She may be able to ban the paparazzi from Balmoral, but her corgis, which have a tendency to attack each other as well as the ankles of her visitors, have had stiff treatment, including therapy.

Queen Sofia of Spain is taking no such risks. She has eschewed the British royal dog and has been spotted with a brace of friendly Yorkshire terriers. Her tiny dogs,

Sasha and Inca, appeared in public with their mistress for the first time over the weekend. It is reported that they managed to remain good-tempered even during a visit to the royal palace in Majorca by the Spanish Prime Minister.

Brockery

DRUNKEN summer revellers are causing problems in North Yorkshire. The local RSPCA have had a number of calls to rescue badgers which have been overindulging in



"Call Mandelson and ask what it is in the shade"

fallen fruit, which ferments and makes them tipsy. One inebriated creature had to be rescued from a swimming pool. The befuddled brock had lumbered into the empty pool and suffered cuts and bruises when it hit the bottom.

At Burythorpe, near Malton, police were called to investigate a suspected break-in. When the intruder was apprehended they discovered another confused badger. An RSPCA spokesman said: "They like the juice, but they don't know when to stop." I know the sort.

Even the Proms have been affected by the inappropriate intrusion of the mobile phone. During a recent performance of Liszt's Piano Concerto, a phone trilled at the most hushed and poignant moments, burst into impromptu song, loosely based on Bob Hoskins' catchphrase, "It's NOT good to talk," they chorused.

Ill-wisher

PRESIDENT CLINTON was presented with a lavish red leather book yesterday at his 50th birthday party, filled with signatures and birthday greetings from celebrities. Paul Newman, Donald Trump and Sharon Stone were among those



Stone: detailed questions

who had inscribed their names and greetings. As Miss Stone was signing, she noticed that one page was missing, cut away close to the spine. She questioned the presidential aide who was circulating the book, but, despite her charms and detailed inquiries, she refused to divulge the name of the person who had penned what can only have been somewhat less than best wishes to the President.

P.H.S



STARS AND SNIPES

ID cards have brought Howard nothing but Tory trouble

In 1950, Britons said a thankful goodbye to their wartime national identity cards. Michael Howard's plans to reintroduce something equivalent have brought the Home Secretary nothing but trouble. It was an appeal to the law-and-order instincts of his party that he first floated the idea at the 1994 Conservative Party conference, but the proposal has sharply divided the Cabinet, and the country remains deeply and properly sceptical that the proposal would be to the clear benefit of the individual.

Those in the Tory rank-and-file, for whom the point of an ID card is fighting crime, see no reason why it should not be compulsory. They argue, logically enough, that to be effective in catching criminals the possession, and production on demand, of such a card would have to be mandatory. But compulsory identification papers are out of the question for civil libertarians, including such powerful members of the Cabinet as Peter Lilley, who object in principle to ID cards as an invasion of privacy. Their misgivings have been powerfully reinforced from many quarters, including the police, whose support for the introduction of purely voluntary cards has been heavily qualified by warnings that the first whiff of compulsion could generate a public backlash, damaging the precious British tradition of "policing by consent".

For two years, Mr Howard has been struggling to square these circles. Now, just as he was about to announce the Government's final plans for a voluntary ID card, he has Tory Euro-sceptics up in arms too. They have discovered that because the new ID card would be tagged on to the new European driving licence to be issued next year, it will carry the 12-star logo of the European Union flag. The result is a merry row over whether, and how prominently, it should also carry either the Union flag or the Royal Crest. Unless Mr Howard can rapidly

rid his scheme of the "un-British" aura it has acquired, he faces a tetchy party conference.

In fairness, the design of the card should be seen as a secondary matter. More serious objections were presented in the course of the consultation exercise, notably by Elizabeth France, the Data Protection Registrar. She objects that the data-bases of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, which would be responsible for meeting requests for ID cards, and those of the Passport Office, are not reliable enough to ensure that the cards are fraud-proof. Birth certificates, for example, now used to obtain passports, are notoriously easy for criminals to fake. Beyond these practical concerns, she is "not satisfied that the benefits derived have been clearly enough set out to justify the erosion of privacy" involved. In this, she is not alone.

The current plan is far too modest to erode privacy significantly — as would be the case if social security numbers, for example, were included. The card will simply combine passport and licence data or, for non-drivers, will contain no more information than a passport. But the less it contains, the more it provokes the question, why bother? Why introduce an ID card, valid for EU travel only, that would do less well what a passport does already? It might, as Mr Howard says, make it easier for 18-year-olds to buy alcohol, tobacco and videos, and for people to open bank accounts. This hardly seems worth the political risks of introducing controversial primary legislation.

Mr Howard clearly hopes that even though the card is voluntary, it will rapidly be seen as a necessity. But at that point, innocent people who have chosen not to apply for a card could experience trouble with police and bureaucracy. He has yet to reassure his critics on this point — and above all to allay suspicions that this is but the first step towards an ID card that tells the State more than it has any business to know.

BUREAUCRATIC HAZE

Too little has been done to enforce promises of cleaner air

At the height of last summer's heatwave the Government promised immediate action to curb the poisonous miasma hanging over Britain's cities, cleanse the streets of car fumes and impose on-the-spot fines for drivers whose dirty engines emitted clouds of black smoke. The summer's heat is here again, and so is the noxious cocktail that reddens the eyes and kills asthmatics. Last year's promises have disappeared into a bureaucratic haze as unpleasant as that now hanging over city centres. For all the talk of sweeping new anti-smog measures, tough action by the Department of Transport and commitment by local authorities to tackle this nuisance, nothing has been done.

Attempting to apportion blame reveals buck-passing and indifference on a massive scale. The local authorities, who are keenest to enforce the proposed fines, have been given no extra money or manpower to do so. As they remark bitterly, their budgets are capped, their spending already stretched and their ability to hire the extra inspectors depleted. The police, in turn, say they cannot spare staff to man the random checks unless they can be sure that local councils will pay for police time. And Department of Transport officials, playing for time, now maintain that more trial schemes are needed. On top of this, the Government insists that any inspection scheme must be self-financing, but is proposing fines for polluting lorries of around only £40.

The penalty betrays a lack of any real commitment. Would a £40 fine be a deterrent to cowboy transport operators who cut costs by cutting corners? It pays to skimp on servicing and engine maintenance, knowing that the chances at present of being caught and fined are small. To insist that an enforcement scheme must pay for itself from such paltry fines not only throws its viability

into doubt but introduces the dangerous principle that something illegal cannot be stopped unless the money can first be found to deal with it. It smacks of the worst kind of political cant: emollient promises of quick action during the few hot days when public ire is aroused, followed by inaction and expectation that public concern will die down.

What makes this reaction all the more cynical is the evident keenness of the public to join in any campaign for cleaner air. Pedestrians, especially those with small children, are angered by lorries, buses and taxis that belch out black exhaust. They are not equipped to remonstrate in person with the driver — it would be often risky to take on the aggression ready to burst out of the lorry cab — but would willingly report the offending vehicle. The Smoky Vehicle Hotline was set up in response to such public spiritedness but there are only eight numbers for the entire country. Who knows the telephone number, or has any confidence that action will be taken?

The huge majority of drivers also care about clean air and maintain their engines properly. Research has found that almost half all traffic pollution is caused by just 10 per cent of the vehicles. It is not difficult, therefore, to spot and deal with those breaching the emission standards. But six months after local authorities were told by the transport department that they would be given lasting powers to deal with pollution, the draft regulations have still not reached them. Much can be done to reduce the harm to people and cities caused by cars: more speed-limits, better public transport, tighter manufacturing standards and more by-passes. These all take time and money. Policing the emission standards costs far less and would make a far bigger immediate difference. All it takes is political will.

ESCAPE FROM KANDAHAR

Those magnificent Russians in their flying machine

Who did not rejoice with the seven dare-devil Russian hostages at their courageous escape from captivity in Afghanistan? It was a story worthy of James Bond, Indiana Jones or even Biggles. It had all the ingredients of a Hollywood adventure — as it doubtless soon will be: airmen shot down by tribal fanatics, held captive in a war-torn country, repeatedly promised freedom and disappointed as negotiations turned sour, finally triumphant after planning, pluck and luck win the day.

For the Russians, accustomed daily to the dreary news of military bungling and humiliation in Chechnya, it was electrifying news. Heroism has been in short supply. Even on Russian cinema screens, adventure nowadays has to be imported: dubbed Bond films or old Cold War spy thrillers, where the Russians were invariably the ones who were outwitted and outgunned. Old home-grown Soviet adventure — Reds v. Whites or Heroine Mother meets Tractor — were no longer watchable or credible. No one had the longer watchable or credible. No one had the budget for escapism films with the panache of *Independence Day*. Now seven men have arrived home with an unbeatable script. They can tell their countrymen that Russian ingenuity can, in the end, outwit the Afghan ingenuity can, in the end, outwit the Afghan foe. It is sweet revenge for a decade of humiliation in the Afghan mountains. There will be medals, memoirs and films galore.

The Russian Government, of course, has been quick to buff its own tarnished record

with the tale. Vitali Ignatenko, a Deputy Prime Minister, flew to the Gulf state of Sharjah to greet the Magnificent Seven. Before accompanying them home he laid claim to months of clandestine negotiations with the wily guerrillas, and hinted that Russia had arranged the necessary airspace clearance over Iran and Pakistan. An American Senator, not to be outdone also claimed that he was the man to persuade the Afghan guards to give the aircrew access to their plane. If so, he must have a silver tongue that is testimony to the persuasive powers of the US Senate.

The fun in real life adventure lies in the details: the captain getting the motors going, one by one; the bewildered Taleban rushing on to the tarmac; the plane ducking and diving at treetop level; the hapless guards bundled up in the back of the plane, astonished but unharmed.

Most of life is mundane. But even an ordinary mishap can demand daring that seems inspired by films. Consider the passenger in Australia who was dangled by his legs over the side of a light aircraft to release the trapped undercarriage mechanism. He was, he admitted, extremely frightened; but he took care to borrow some money beforehand from those holding him to ensure their firm grip. It is the sang-froid that makes him, and the Russian crew, heroes of our time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Collapse of civic identity and the role of the community

From Dr Ratnam Niththyananthan

Sir, David Selbourne's article of August 14, "The demands of our day", echoes the profound unease felt by many of us as we witness the rapid deterioration of values and ethical standards in our society.

As a Tamil who came to Britain 30 years ago, I have witnessed this deterioration, coupled with a loss of sense of civic identity and lack of national direction. It is perhaps more apparent to those of us who have come here from Third World countries, where traditional values of family integrity and social responsibility still prevail.

The roots of this problem are surely to be found in an educational system that produces 16-year-olds who leave school illiterate, innumerate and without any sense of social and civic responsibility.

At the London Tamil Centre — a weekend, mother-tongue school for 200 children, combined with a voluntary advisory clinic for the elderly — we aim to inculcate ethical and social values in our children which will replace the teaching that is sadly lacking in the state schools.

The loss of the close ties that once bound families together is another destabilising factor: so is the influence of television programmes, with their daily offerings of sex and violence.

If our sense of civic and national integrity is not to disappear completely, there is an urgent need for a nation-

wide movement, transcending all ethnic and religious boundaries. It is time for men and women of goodwill to come together to initiate such a movement and to reverse a trend which, if allowed to continue, will lead to the complete collapse of civilised values.

Yours faithfully,
RATNAM NITHTHYANANTHAN
(Headmaster),
London Tamil Centre,
179 Norval Road,
North Wembley, Middlesex.
August 14.

From Mr Charles Hunter

Sir, I am not "in... despair" as David Selbourne suggests. Most if not all the examples of institutions which Mr Selbourne claims are being destroyed by politicians — among them local authorities and the public utilities — would surely survive if they had widespread support.

I do not recognise a general loss of civic identity — indeed, in London, I find our communities gathering in maturity and cohesion (my unsupported assertions as good as any one's). People increasingly find little use for *de haut en bas* formal civic institutions, and these are being replaced by less formalised structures which are closer to the community, being derived from and involving those communities.

As our society matures, moral

choice becomes ever more complex. However, this should not mean we should drift pessimistically into Mr Selbourne's falsely halcyon dreams of institutional simplicities of earlier ages.

Unlike Mr Selbourne, I find "moral turmoil" an exciting challenge — a challenge long denied me because moral choices were taken for me by my elders and betters (often in civic institutions).

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES HUNTER,
24 Hogarth House,
Erasmus Street, SW1.
August 14.

From Mr C. N. Hill

Sir, I read Mr Selbourne's article today with incredulity. "The fraudulent conversion of our public utilities... into private assets dispossess millions of us." Not me, Sir. Is there one instance where a privatised utility has not provided a better service and provided it at a lower cost?

I am faxing this to you today because the Post Office is on strike (and because a fax via BT, a privatised company, is quicker, cheaper and more convenient).

Yours faithfully,
C. N. HILL,
53a St John's Street,
Farncombe, Surrey.
August 14.

Roman Britain's secrets explored

From Brigadier W. P. Bewley

Sir, Dr M. C. Bishop (letter, August 14) disputes your report's assertion (August 7) that Roman spears were designed to break on landing. He explains that they penetrated shield and armour and frequently bent after impact.

Vegetius (4th century AD), in *Epitoma Rei Militaris*, I. 20, describes the weapon as having a thin triangular head such as, once lodged in a shield, could not be broken off and when thrown skilfully might pierce a cuirass.

Polybius (2nd century BC) describes the early *pilum* as having a head riveted so securely that the blade would break before the shaft was loosened. This meant that once thrown it could be reused by the enemy even if the head itself was broken.

Gaius Marius (1st century BC) adopted a design which had reduced the number of rivets to two, but made one of them wooden. The wooden pin would break on impact and the iron rivet would bend, rendering the weapon useless. Unfortunately the modification proved impracticable.

Caesar (also 1st century BC) confined the tempering of the blade to the point: the soft, untempered neck of the blade bent on impact where it joined the shaft.

... a single spear often pierced more than one of [the Gauls'] overlapping shields and pinned them together, and... they could not pull them out... many, after repeated attempts to jerk their arms free, preferred to drop the shields and fight unprotected (*The Conquest of Gaul*, I, 25).

Yours faithfully,
BILL BEWLEY,
Jan da Mar,
1 Ivy Place, London Road,
Stratford, Duffries and Galloway.
August 14.

From the Reverend Professor Emeritus W. H. C. Frend, FBA

Sir, The pattern of the mosaic in the small church at Silchester (article, August 13) was a chequer-board and not a crucifix. In fact, no specifically Christian material was found on the site during the excavations. The church ceased to be used as such circa 370, when it became a haunt for squatters.

Its history typifies the ultimate lack of success of Christianity in Roman Britain and the resulting profound difference between our history and that of our continental neighbours.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM H. C. FREND,
The Clerks Cottage,
Little Wilbraham, Cambridge.
August 14.

From Mr J. D. Peek

Sir, The original object of the Romans in founding Wroxeter (article, August 13) was most probably to tempt the tribe away from the Iron Age hill fort they occupied on the Wrekin by offering running water and modern housing beside the Severn, and allowing them to keep their old name, Uricomium.

This name is derived from Wrekin, a Celtic place-name meaning rocky escarpment (for ridge), as a number of other examples (including some in France) attest.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PEEK,
Les Broches (rocky escarpment),
Chambonas,
07140 Les Vans, France.
August 15.

From Mr Edgar Samuel

Sir, The suggestion reported (August 9) by your Archaeology Correspondent that the name London means "a marshy place" is unlikely, since Londinium itself (as opposed to its surroundings) was not marshy. The Roman army's sappers chose the site because its river bank provided a firm gravel base for a bridge.

Londinium consisted of two high and dry gravel-topped terraces, Cornhill and Ludgate Hill, with the river Wallbrook between them. The traditional derivation of London from the Old Welsh *llong dyn* ("ship hill") seems much more likely.

Yours faithfully,
EDGAR SAMUEL,
Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.
August 9.

From Mr J. Paterson

Sir, The article (August 12) on the Antonine Wall triggered a dim recollection of my rudimentary encounter with the Latin language 60-odd years ago.

Your reporter stated that the broad ditch which fronted the wall was known as the *vallum*. It was in fact known as the *fossa*. The rampart was the *vallum*.

I am grateful for the opportunity to parade this snippet of useless information after so many years.

Yours sincerely,
J. PATERSON,
3 Shore Road, Port Barnatyne,
Rothsay, Island of Bute.
August 13.

From Mr P. M. Burrows

Sir, Any old soldier can guess what the building of Hadrian's Wall (article, August 5) was for: to give the Stanegate fort garrisons something to occupy their minds.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. BURROWS,
41 Harrison Close, Reigate, Surrey.
August 6.

The marriage service

From Prebendary Dr Chad Varah

Sir, Most of the clergy who still use the Book of Common Prayer take advantage of at least some of the "additions and deletions" provided in the revision of 1928, whose rejection by Parliament has been widely ignored.

Mr Quentin Letts ("Spare us Marriage", August 14; see also, report August 13) might prefer a service which tells him, for instance, that "secondly, it was ordained for a remedy against sin, and to avoid fornication, that such persons as have not the gift of continency might marry"; but most couples in love politely reject "the gift of continency" and prefer "secondly, it was ordained in order that the natural instincts and affections, implanted by God should be hallowed and directed aright".

It surely doesn't matter that those who use the Register Office — in many cases because a divorce disqualifies them from the Solemnisation of Holy Matrimony — have fewer words available to them than hitherto. They can subsequently have a Church blessing which uses much of the beautiful language of the Prayer Book, with hymnody.

Yours faithfully,
CHAD VARAH,
St Stephen Walbrook, EC4.
August 14.

From the Earl of Gowrie

Sir, God Bless the marriage of Quentin Letts and Lois Rathbone, to be solemnised by the Book of Common Prayer. Our Church's abandoning of the BCP and the Authorised Version of the Bible is the biggest act of cultural vandalism in my adult lifetime: an equivalent of Cromwell's men hacking off the noses of carved saints in Ely Cathedral in their iconoclastic frenzy almost 250 years ago. Indeed, the Church's good intentions only highlight the horror of the deed.

Yours faithfully,
GOWRIE,
House of Lords.
August 14.

A move for Sir Walter?

From Sir Duncan Oppenheim

Sir, Dr Brian Porter (letter, August 12) suggests that the statue of Sir Walter Raleigh be moved from Whitehall (where it is hardly noticeable) to the strip of land fronting the National Gallery.

That is precisely the location sought and refused when the statue was commissioned in the 1950s as part of the celebrations of the 350th anniversary of the first landings at Jamestown, Virginia. The proposal was to place Sir Walter next to George Washington in place of King James II, who was to be removed to a more relevant site.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN OPPENHEIM,
43 Edwards Square, W8.
August 13.

Maddened by bells

From Mr Andrew Wilby

Sir, Mr Richard Berkley-Matthews (letter, August 12) claims that Lundy Island bells are causing disruption to the peace of the island.

The amount of ringing is controlled by the ringers in order to ensure that there is no such disruption. In addition, the weather-proofing and sound insulation in the tower is so substantial that unless the louvres are deliberately opened up, the bells cannot be heard more than a few yards from the church.

I must invite Mr Berkley-Matthews to pull the other one.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW WILBY (Ringing Master),
Lundy Island Society of Ringers,
Nelson's Yard,
Towcester, Northamptonshire.
August 13.

Deliberation on change to gun laws

From Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, MP for Burton (Conservative)

Sir, I am disappointed in your coverage of the majority report on handguns by the Home Affairs Select Committee (reports and leading article, August 14; letters August 8, 16).

We did not mount a "do-nothing defence", as your leader alleges, but made 23 positive recommendations for improvement and change. We did not recommend that doctors should judge on the fitness of any individual to own a gun: we suggested only that the applicant should include a section on his/her medical history which a GP should verify if the information supplied by the applicant is true.

We certainly did not place a premium on cost-saving above the saving of life, as you imply by your assertion that "the appeal to the wallet... reinforces the unhappy impression that Conservatives reduce every moral question to a matter of cash". Nor were we "reticent" in commenting about alleged leaks, as stated in one of your reports: we are bound by parliamentary rules not to discuss a report until the day of publication.

Neither, so far as I am aware, has David Maclean, Home Affairs Minister of State, "distanced" the Government from our conclusions. He has said no more than that a select committee is an independent parliamentary body, not a creature of government, and that the Government set up Lord Cullen's inquiry to provide guidance for legislation upon which it will act.

I hope that these inadequacies are not an indication that *The Times*, too, has been swept along on the tide of

emotion which seems to be influencing objective judgment on this issue. Surely if we are to legislate to deprive 200,000 decent British citizens of their rights to leisure and sporting pursuits, and in some cases their livelihoods, we should only do so by reasoned argument following mature reflection?

One further point. Today you publish a letter from the President of the Police Superintendents' Association, Mr Brian Mackenzie, denying that his association has changed its evidence since the committee hearing. I would remind Mr Mackenzie that in his association's written evidence to the committee he said:

The Association accepts that the total banning of the private possession of handguns would be too draconian and an unacceptable restriction on the liberty of the citizen... a simple ban on keeping handguns at home would not solve the problem.

Furthermore, giving oral evidence to the committee — together with the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, Sir James Sharples — Mr Mackenzie said: "I do not think anybody is suggesting the banning of handguns." When John Greenway, MP, replied: "But other people are," Sir James stated:

Our evidence to this committee is that a ban is inappropriate for very good reasons. What we are insistent upon saying is that there needs to be a strong regulatory framework.

Yours faithfully,
IVAN LAWRENCE
(Chairman,
Home Affairs Select Committee),
House of Commons.
August 16.

Availability of abortion

From Mr Nicholas Richardson

Sir, Your leading article of August 8, "Hard choices", about the abortion debate (see also letters, August 7, 10, 15) rightly advocates "a bracing re-evaluation of difficult questions". It has indeed been taken for granted by most people for a long time that "NHS doctors would consent to abortions only if their refusal would result in significant harm".

Unfortunately, however, few people are aware of just how liberally the concept of "significant harm" has been interpreted in practice. Published statistics show that only some 2 per cent of abortions are carried out because of risk to the mother's life or a substantial risk that the child would be born seriously handicapped.

Some 98 per cent are performed on healthy women and healthy babies. Many abortions are due to much less strictly defined criteria, which often amount in reality to little more than the convenience of the mother, or the social pressures she is under.

These pressures can seem very strong at the time, but many women are unaware of the consequent dan-

gers to their mental and physical health. There is now a very substantial body of evidence concerning "post-abortion trauma" — the severe and long-lasting psychological disturbance which affects the health of many women who have lost a baby in this way.

The time will come for a reassessment of the costs to society in terms of health and whether, after all, abortion is really the lesser of two evils. In the meantime, the shortage of children available for adoption by childless couples has led to increased demand for various forms of artificial and assisted conception, which in turn raises serious moral problems.

The recent and shocking case of the aborted twin has stirred consciences which have long been dormant. Surely it is high time that what had seemed to many a dead issue should again become a live debate.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS RICHARDSON
(Chairman,
South Oxon Life Group),
The Old House,
72 High Street, Sutton Courtenay,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.
August 9.

Salopian nights

From Dr Alan B. Shrank

Sir, Benedict Nightingale's miserable evening out in London ("A dim view from Row 7", Arts, August 12) is in sharp contrast to the delights of a service, known as the Concerts Coach, pioneered in Shrewsbury and now in its tenth year.

Hired coaches take us from the centre of Shrewsbury — within walking distance for many — then pick up others on the way and take us not only to concerts in Birmingham's wonderful Symphony Hall but also to theatres in Stratford-upon-Avon, Mold, Newton and Birmingham.

The coaches leave after 5.30pm, mostly returning after about 10pm, so we take picnic suppers to enjoy on the journey, with no worries about driving, parking or seeking a meal. We also patronise festivals in Chester, Chel-

tenham, Malvern and Lichfield and recently travelled down to Glyndebourne for the weekend.

Derek Wharton, the genius behind it all, issues a quarterly programme (usually of around 40 events) to a mailing list of 1,200 households. Since he sells nearly 10,000 tickets a year, the discounts he achieves almost pay for the cost of having the coach: he puts buses on seats and so helps the entertainments industry to survive.

Shropshire, which inaugurated the Industrial Revolution, now has a cultural revolution under way.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN B. SHRANK,
20 Crescent Place, Town Walls,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
August 14.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

OBITUARIES

THE VERY REV ERIC EVANS

The Very Rev Eric Evans, KCVO, Dean of St Paul's since 1988, died on August 17 aged 68. He was born on February 1, 1928.

Eric Evans, who died on holiday in Gloucestershire, was a typically gregarious Welshman from West Wales who won the affection of the hands of people by his smile, his welcome, his many kindnesses and his hospitality. The Deanery of St Paul's was to offer him a national platform from which he could, and did, combine his warm personality with a direct and straightforward preaching of the Christian faith and a firm loyalty to the Queen and the British monarchy. He never wavered in these convictions.

Born into the educational culture of the Welsh valleys, Thomas Eric Evans secured his first degree at St David's College, Lampeter, after which he moved on to St Catherine's College, Oxford, and, as an ordinand, to St Stephen's House, one of the most Anglo-Catholic of Anglican theological colleges.

Ordained deacon in 1954, he was priest at Canterbury Cathedral a year later by Geoffrey Fisher, the highly traditionalist ninth Archbishop, with whom he struck up a warm friendship. After curacies at Margate and Bournemouth, during which he founded the Bournemouth branch of the Samaritans, he moved to Gloucester to become, for seven years, the diocesan youth chaplain.

Basil Guy, then Bishop of Gloucester, appointed Evans as diocesan canon missioner in 1969, in which post he also became a residential canon of Gloucester Cathedral, an office he kept on his preference to the archdeaconry of Cheltenham in 1975. These jobs permitted him to live in the Close at Gloucester for 19 years and he came to love the city, the cathedral and the diocese with a deep and last-



ing affection. Long after his move to St Paul's, he could still frequently be heard proposing some course of action which he had advocated when he was "in that cathedral in the West". His colleagues laughed and nudged each other, whispering sotto voce: "There he goes again."

His ministry "in the West" led him to various duties such as being a governor of Cheltenham Ladies' College, a chaplain to the Air Training Corps, the Gloucester College of Education and the Gloucestershire Constabulary. He chaired, or served, on a full range of diocesan councils and committees and was, for three years, chairman of the Diocesan Synod's House of Clergy. Evans was elected to the General Synod in 1970 and

served until 1995. He was on its standing committee from 1981 to 1988. In 1978 he became both a Church Commissioner and a director of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Office, being appointed at once to the Church Commissioners' inner board of governors, on which he served for 16 years.

His appointment to St Paul's was widely believed to have been owed to the direct hand of Margaret Thatcher. (Prime Ministers can still personally select deans, though no longer bishops). She had never quite forgiven the previous regime for the tone of the Falklands thanksgiving service of July 1982 and thought it was high time the cathedral put its house in order. She was, therefore, looking for an administrator rather than a

scholar and Evans, who had little claim to intellectual distinction, certainly fitted that bill.

At first he found himself surrounded by a less than united chapter — it was Dean Inge who once said that a Dean of St Paul's is "a mouse watched by four cats" — but gradually that situation changed. Here he was luckier than his predecessor, the scholarly Alan Webster, for the arrival of three new residentiary canons within the space of 18 months in 1990-91 effectively put an end to most of the previous notorious backbiting within Amen Court.

These personnel changes ensured that his last five years as Dean of St Paul's were very happy ones. But the perceptible change in atmosphere also

owed something to his own warm and friendly personality.

It was only ill-health that led to his decision to resign at the age of 68 (he could have continued until he was 70). He died six weeks before his scheduled retirement date of September 30 — and while the name of his successor still awaited an official announcement.

Throughout his eight years as Dean he gave himself unsparingly to the City of London. He was appointed a Freeman in 1988 and chaplain to the Guild of Freeman, and annually conducted the brief Blessing of the Lord Mayor which takes place during the Lord Mayor's Show in November. He was made an Honorary Freeman of the

ANNE KRISTEN

Anne Kristen, actress, died of cancer on August 7 aged 59. She was born in Glasgow on March 7, 1937.

ANNE KRISTEN was one of Scotland's best-loved actresses. Her work was known to audiences all over Britain through her many television roles — especially in the BBC's *Casualty* — but almost all her stage appearances were made north of the border. She was a loyal member of such groups as the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow and the 784 Company, and she played both classical and modern roles.

Anne Kristen enjoyed a cultured upbringing. Her father was the literary editor of the *Glasgow Herald* and at Laurel Bank High School where she was educated she was encouraged to act and sing in the school's plays.

From school she went straight to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama where, on graduating, she was awarded the academy's gold medal which entitled her to join the Citizens Theatre straight away. It was there that her real commitment to her profession was nurtured. Many will remember her engaging performances as Eliza Doolittle, St Joan, Lady Teazle (directed by the young Albert Finney) and Beatie in *Arnold Wesker's Roots*. But it was her calmness, honesty and mischievous humour that most endeared her to the company.

Her stage appearances in England were few, perhaps the most memorable being in *June and the Paycock* at the Nottingham Playhouse and in *The Crucible* at The National Theatre. It was Scottish audiences, however, who saw her in what was perhaps her finest part: that of Vertie in that medieval Scottish political saga *The Thrie Estaitis*. Tom Fleming first directed the play in the Assembly Hall for the 1984 Edinburgh Festival, but after the festival it was taken to Warsaw where it received standing ovations.

Her marriage to Iain Cuthbertson ended in divorce. They had no children.

Kristen was in many television dramas, including *Wings*, *Good Time Girls*, *Spooks*, *War, Swallows and Amazons*, *Minder*, *Taggart*, *Dr Finlay and Hamish Macbeth*. But the part that brought her particular fame and recognition — and one which she greatly enjoyed playing — was that of Norma Sullivan, the vulnerable and harassed receptionist of the emergency wing in the series *Casualty*.



Away from acting, Kristen had an intense love of the countryside. She married the Scottish actor Iain Cuthbertson in the 1970s and they became tenants of a National Trust property called Rockcliffe on the Solway Firth. She adored the Galloway hills and would walk over them for hours with her two Afghan hounds. Later, she moved to Ancrum in Roxburghshire to nurse her mother.

In the last few months of her life when she was suffering severely from cancer she was moved to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. A lady in the bed next to hers thought she recognised her and asked whether they had seen each other in *Sawney*. "Aye, that'll be it," quipped Kristen, enjoying the humour of the situation even to the end.

Her marriage to Iain Cuthbertson ended in divorce. They had no children.

PROFESSOR TADEUS REICHSTEIN

Professor Tadeus Reichstein, pharmacologist, died in Basel, Switzerland, on August 1 aged 99. He was born in Wlodek, Poland on July 20, 1897.

A NOBEL-prizewinning scientist whose work helped to build the modern bridge spanning organic chemistry and medicine, Tadeus Reichstein made his first momentous contribution to pharmacology in 1933 when he devised a method of synthesising vitamin C.

The sophisticated oxidation process which he used has proved astonishingly enduring. Worldwide, thousands of tons of this vitamin are



synthesised annually, and it is the Reichstein procedure which is still relied upon. However, this was not the invention for which Reichstein was to achieve most renown. A

year later, working in parallel with clinical pharmacologists in America, he began to study hormonal structure in the adrenal cortex.

Between them these scientists isolated more than 40 different substances, many of which performed vital roles. Among these Reichstein identified aldosterone which controls the salt-water ratio of the human body and, more famously, corticosterone, now known as cortisone, the anti-inflammatory steroid effective in the treatment of arthritis.

He published his preliminary findings in 1935, but the complexity of his research was such that it was more than 20 years later that the study was completed.

Among the vital steroids named were those which mediated the immune response, controlled nervous development, determined sex and governed the rate of metabolism of sugars. Of these a total of about 30 were isolated and synthesised by Reichstein and his team and in 1950 he, and the American scientists Edward Kendall and Philip Hench, were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology.

Tadeus Reichstein was born into a Jewish family living in Poland but, unsettled by the growing anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe, he and his family moved when he was just eight years old, first to Berlin and then, three years later, to Zurich. He was granted Swiss citizenship in 1914.

Reichstein studied at the Zurich Technical University, graduating with a degree in chemical engineering in 1920. He found work for a short time in industry but his talents were under-used outside the sphere of research, and he soon returned to the university to study for a doctorate under the Nobel Prize winner, Hermann Staudinger. Together they investigated the odiferous constituents of coffee and chicory. Their work was to provide the basis of powdered coffee.

In 1930 Reichstein accepted a lecturer's post at his university in the then new research speciality of physiological chemistry. He began to study the structure and synthesis of carbohydrates, often waiting years for crystallisation to take place. His talent quickly drew international recognition and in 1934 he was appointed assistant professor, and three years later associate professor.

In 1938, not long after he had begun his work on the isolation of hormones in the adrenal cortex, he moved to Basel University to take up a post as head of the pharmacy department, and it was there that he continued his Nobel Prize winning work.

In the 1950s Basel opened its world renowned Institute for Organic Chemistry of which Reichstein was director until he retired at the age of 70. He was awarded the Royal Society's Copley Medal in 1968.

However, despite his retirement from the directorship, he continued to work at the institute and to head postgraduate research groups. He remained at the institute even after the age of 75, at which point he had suddenly announced his determination to become a botanist: in the ensuing 25 years he was to establish an international reputation in this field too, as an expert in the classification of ferns.

Tadeus Reichstein married in 1927, Louise von Ufford. He is survived by a daughter.

ABDUL RAHMAN BABU

Sheikh Abdul Rahman Muhammad Babu, former Tanzanian politician, died in the London Chest Hospital on August 5 aged 71. He was born in Zanzibar on September 22, 1924.

A COMMITTED Pan-Africanist, Abdul Rahman Muhammad Babu fought throughout his life for the liberation of his continent from colonial rule. He was a prominent member of international Left-wing circles, his friends and collaborators including such figures as Che Guevara, Chou-en-Lai, Malcolm X, and Pakistan's Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Abdul Rahman Muhammad Babu was born into a distinguished religious family. His forefathers had migrated from Mecca to Iraq and to Hadramaut in southern Yemen. For a time Babu's father lived and worked in Mozambique, before moving to Zanzibar where he served briefly as the Portuguese consul.

After an early grounding in Islamic education, Babu went on to study at the Government Central School in Zanzibar. But, after a time as a clerk with the Clove Growers Association, he moved to London in 1950. There he was exposed to radical politics and was for a time an anarchist. He worked closely with Lord (Fenner) Brockway in the Movement for Colonial Freedom.

In 1957 he returned to Africa to work as secretary general for the pro-independence Zanzibar Nationalist Party (ZNP). But his work was interrupted in 1962 when, after publishing an editorial alleging that the British had turned Zanzibar into a police state, he was imprisoned for sedition. He became something of a hero during his brief incarceration



and his eventual release was marked by festivities. But the adulation proved short-lived.

After fundamental disagreements with the more conservative faction of the ZNP, Babu left the party in 1963 and founded the Marxist Umma Party. Now he was cast as a bogeyman who would turn "mosques into bars", misleading the youth. It was, indeed, among the youth that he found his most dedicated following. "Babu's boys", as his supporters came to be known, were to play a crucial role in the 1964 revolution.

Zanzibar, which had been a British protectorate since 1890, had become an independent sultanate at the end of 1963. But in the armed uprising of 1964 the sultan was deposed and a republic proclaimed. Though this revolution was the brainchild of the Afro-Shirazi Party, led by the burly former boatman Sheikh

Abd Karume, it was Babu's Umma Party which gave it its ideological ballast.

The ill-educated Karume was not comfortable with Babu, Nor was Julius Nyerere in neighbouring Tanganyika. He and Karume, with the encouragement of the United States — also uncomfortable with events in Zanzibar (the "Cuba of Africa") — hastily united their countries to form Tanzania in April 1964.

At the time Babu, by then holding his first ministerial portfolio as Zanzibar's foreign affairs and external trade minister, was in Pakistan. Although he opposed the manner in which the Union was formed, there was little he could do to reverse the decision. On his return home, he was reshuffled and sent to work in Nyerere's office as planning minister. It was the first of a number of ministerial positions which he held in the

Union Government until 1971, when he was dropped by Nyerere.

In April 1972 Karume was assassinated and Babu, although out fishing when the deed was done, was arrested and detained by Nyerere without trial until 1978. He was accused of being the leader of a plot to oust the Government.

On his release, Babu left Tanzania to teach at universities in the USA and in Britain. He also wrote extensively for a number of international journals. But his only published book was *African Socialism or Socialist Africa* (1981).

Towards the end of his life he abandoned many of his earlier postures, conceding that mistakes had been made. He began to champion democracy, accepting that a multi-party system was necessary for development. Though himself an anti-monarchist, he worked closely with King Moshohoe of Lesotho, who was in exile in London, to form a pan-African human rights organisation to fight for what they called "Africa's second liberation".

Throughout his political career, Babu was supported by Ashura, his wife. They were divorced in the early 1990s, and this had a detrimental effect on Babu's re-entry into mainstream Tanzanian politics in 1995. Ashura would probably have prevented him from committing the blunder of joining the hopeless National Convention for Construction and Reform which had adopted him as its vice-presidential running mate. He was disqualified from running by the Government because he had spent time in detention on treason charges.

Babu is survived by three sons and a daughter. Another daughter pre-deceased him.

SCOTTISH POISON MYSTERY

Dingwall, August 18. The death-roll resulting from accidental poisoning at Lochmear, Gairloch, Ross-shire, through eating sandwiches that contained preserved potted meat, has been increased to seven, two more of the victims having died.

The following is a list of the dead: Mr John Stewart, 70, cloth merchant of Folliside, Paisley; Mr William Vickers Dixon, Blackrock, Co Dublin; Mr Dixon, his wife; Mr John F. Talbot, RA; Mr Edward Gordon Williams, 66, barrister of London; Mrs Rosamund Sophia Anderson, wife of Major Anderson, DSO Seaforth Highlanders, Parliament Street, London; Kenneth MacLennan, 68, of Aulbuck.

It is stated that an official investigation discloses no neglect or want of precaution on the part of anyone. Medical opinion, in effect, is that rather than plume poisoning, with the implication of bad meat, some food poison organism was the cause of the deaths. One expert is understood to have said that this was less surprising in the case of preserved meat than in meat freshly killed and freshly cooked, which stood no risk of contamination from an accidental and undiscovered defect in a

ON THIS DAY

August 19, 1922

Sandwiches provided by a Scottish hotel, which contained preserved potted meat, were believed to have caused the deaths of seven people.

containing vessel. Gairloch is a long way off the beaten track. The railway is 30 miles away, and there is no telephone. On Monday morning various parties arranged for a day on the hill or the loch, and the hotel management provided sandwiches for those who did not expect to return to lunch.

The sandwiches were made fresh on Monday morning. There were three cold roast meat sandwiches in each packet, and three sandwiches either of preserved potted meat, or potted chicken and ham, or potted turkey and tongue, the latter both of the preserved type. The evidence is that those, and only those with

perhaps one doubtful exception, who had potted meat sandwiches became ill.

In the evening the guests dined at the hotel. It was only about breakfast time the next morning that the first and not very pronounced symptoms were experienced. Young Mr Talbot had not come down, and his father, Mr G. J. Talbot, KC, of London, went up to see him. His son excused himself from breakfast, saying that he had double vision and was not quite fit. Later Mr Williams, another of the guests, made practically an identical complaint. For a time "seeing double" was regarded as a joke, but before long symptoms pointing to some disturbing agency were more clearly discovered in dizziness among the guests, cases of actual sickness, and later, a distressing form of paralysis which affected the muscles of the throat, ultimately making speech impossible. Consciousness persisted to the end in each case, and the sufferers, unable to speak, communicated their wishes and explained their symptoms in writing.

Alarm spread in the hotel, and medical aid was quickly obtained. Altogether six medical men considered the cases and attended the sufferers. The distress of the last deepened, and although there was very little pain, and general collapse followed. Another ghillie is suffering, but there are hopes of his recovery.

BOOK OFFER

At a Service Near You

Ruth Gledhill, religious affairs correspondent of *The Times*, visited nearly 200 places of worship for the series in *Weekend*. At your service, and this book is a collection of 63 of those engaging articles.

Not quite the ecclesiastical equivalent of *The Good Pub Guide*, but Gledhill does assess the quality of the leadership, architecture, sermon, music, liturgy, after-service care and spiritual high at the churches she visits.

She describes the atmosphere, the sort of people who attend, the style of the worship, the quality of preaching and anything that particularly strikes her, even the coffee.

As the daughter of an Anglican clergyman, Gledhill has been attending church regularly since childhood and the experience of visiting so many has had an impact on her own faith.

"I began the series as a churchgoing Anglican with fairly traditionalist views," she says. "The experience has made me more liberal in belief and more open to

evangelical styles of worship, in particular the joy and movement that comes with some of the best spiritual songs."

Ruth believes churches are more than places of worship. They are also community centres in a world where neighbourhood communities are vanishing. They provide an oasis of peace in a noisy environment. The best churches preach faith as the foundation for true healing and happiness and impart to her the sense of God's presence.

At a Service Near You makes enjoyable reading. Anyone who wants to find out about a church in an area they are visiting, or simply curious about local churches, will find it extremely helpful.

Readers can get a copy of *At a Service Near You: British Churches — The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* for only £6.49 (normal price £7.99) including postage and packing and with an inserted book plate signed by the author.

In the 1950s Basle opened its world renowned Institute for Organic Chemistry of which Reichstein was director until he retired at the age of 70. He was awarded the Royal Society's Copley Medal in 1968.

However, despite his retirement from the directorship, he continued to work at the institute and to head postgraduate research groups. He remained at the institute even after the age of 75, at which point he had suddenly announced his determination to become a botanist: in the ensuing 25 years he was to establish an international reputation in this field too, as an expert in the classification of ferns.

Tadeus Reichstein married in 1927, Louise von Ufford. He is survived by a daughter.

FOR INQUIRIES OR TELEPHONE ORDERS DIAL: 01843 602717

NEWS

Belgian police find two bodies

Belgian police are convinced they are on the trail of a gang of murderous paedophiles after the discovery of the decaying bodies of two eight-year-old girls.

At least six more children may have been victims of the child-sex network centred on the city of Charleroi. The two bodies, discovered trussed and folded into blue plastic sacks, were dug up in the back garden of Marc Dutroux, 39, who is an unemployed electrician, in the village of Sars-la-Buissière. Pages 1, 3

MPs in backlash over identity cards

Michael Howard is facing a backlash among Conservative backbench MPs angered that the Union Jack might be dropped from the national identity card to avoid offending nationalists in Northern Ireland. Page 1

Teenager shot dead

William Bates, 19, the son of Andrew Bates, the multimillionaire builder and part-owner of this year's Grand National winner Rough Quest, has been shot dead in Honduras. Page 1

Another book

New accounting rules are to be sent to Church of England vicars to make it harder for them to break the commandment, thou shalt not steal. Page 1

Tory strategy

Senior Tory strategists are preparing to ditch past election tactics aimed at wooing "Essex Man" in a final effort to win back lost voters in marginal constituencies. Page 2

IRA inquiry

The IRA has begun one of its most far-reaching internal inquiries after a series of damaging undercover operations by the security authorities. Page 2

Vicar mourned

Parishioners of the Rev Christopher Gray, the clergyman killed outside his own church last week, gathered there in sombre mood for the first Sunday communion since his death. Page 5

Palace decision

Buckingham Palace officials will discuss today whether to begin legal action against four freelance photographers they want to keep out of the Balmoral estate. Page 5

Flying into the record books

A seabird that nests on an Orkney island has become the world's oldest-known wild bird. The female fulmar, known as number 57, is more than 50 and scientists have been monitoring it on Sylvania since the early 1950s. It took the time after a black-browed albatross, ringed at the same time, failed to return to its New Zealand nest site this year. Page 5

Dancing with danger

More than eight out of 10 professional dancers are injured annually, their bodies left vulnerable by poor diet, long hours and draughty rehearsal rooms. Page 6

Museum sued

The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge faces legal action over a multimillion-pound bequest of Renaissance bronzes whose ownership is being contested. Page 7

A murder too many?

A German multinational executive's murder has shaken South Africa's nervous foreign businesses and injected urgency into anti-crime strategies. Page 8

Perot success

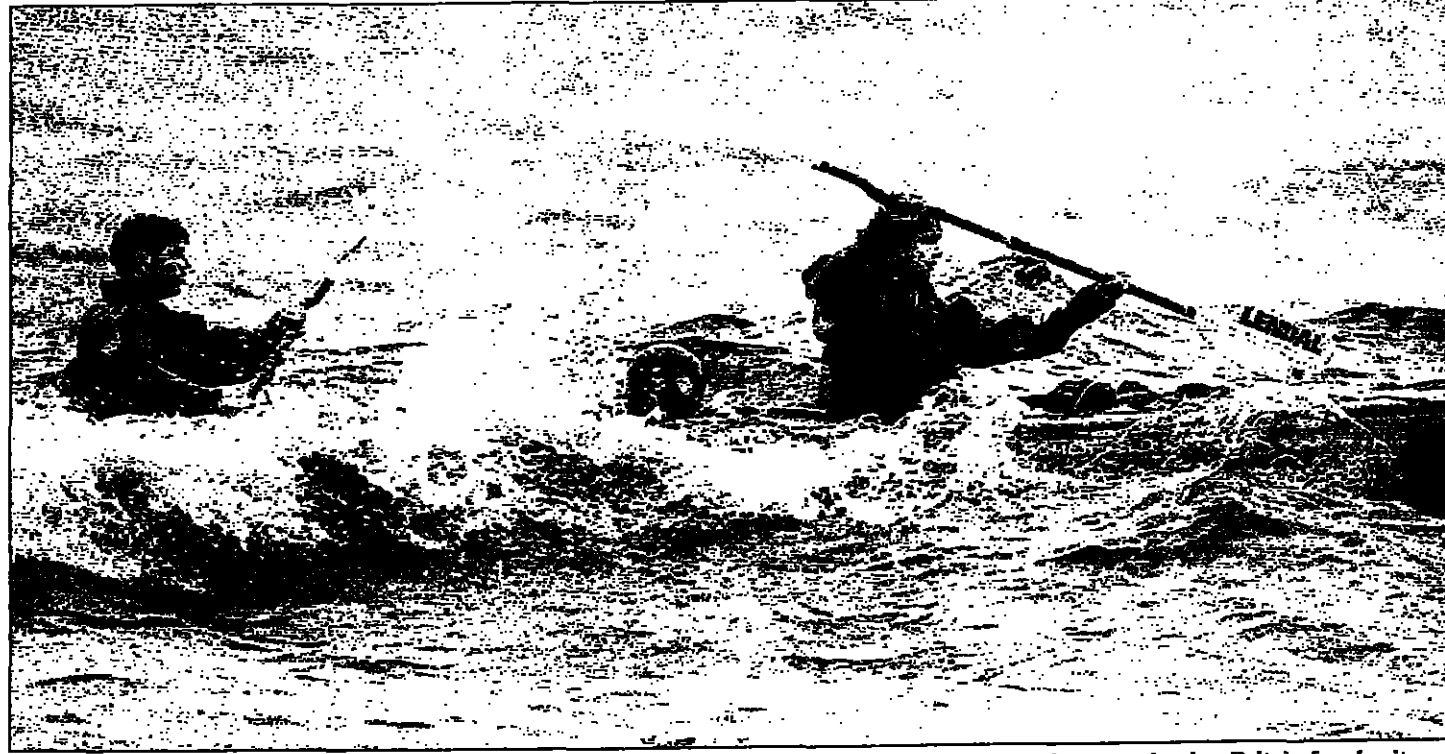
Ross Perot became America's third official presidential candidate, brushing aside a challenge for his new Reform Party's nomination from Richard Lamm, the former Colorado governor. Page 9

Detested mayor

Jacques Bompard, the National Front mayor of Orange, has become one of France's most feared and detested men, and a hero to the extreme right second only to Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen. Page 10

Russian failure

The Chechen war has highlighted the failure of Russia's armed forces to learn the lessons of Afghanistan, a report in *Jane's Intelligence Review* says. Page 11



Steve Macdonald, left, who is blind, and Peter Bray, off Scotland's west coast. The canoeists are circumnavigating Britain for charity

BUSINESS

Pay: The CBI has logged a downturn in manufacturing pay awards to an average of only 3.2 per cent in the three months to July, helping to squeeze inflation in the fifth year of economic expansion. But there are growing fears of a winter of strikes. Page 44

Ferries: P&O and Stena are expected to start talks on combining their cross-Channel ferry operations after being given permission by the Government to collaborate in order to raise fares. Page 44

Lloyds: The London insurance market faces the final challenge to its last-ditch rescue plan in a Virginia court this week as 34,000 names decide whether to accept the complex £3.2 billion settlement scheme. Page 44

ARTS

Pop festival: The 14-act V96 touring event kicks off in Chelmsford with only two to spoil the view of a fine parade of British talent, led by a fizzing Pulp. Page 16

Fine Restoration: *Love in a Wood*, the play that set the template for the convoluted amorous intrigues in every Restoration comedy that followed. Page 16

Edinburgh low: The Festival's theatrical subdivision continues to disappoint with a satirical spin-off from a 16th-century play that lacks all the original's virtues. Page 17

Edinburgh high: On a much happier note, Bryn Terfel's voice manages the rare trick of filling the Usher Hall not just with an audience and a voice, but with a personality. Page 17

FEATURES

Hidden History: Continuing our occasional series, *The Times* unravels a tale of illicit love between a privileged but naive young wife and a dashing prince. Page 13

Old hatreds: Six years after Communism's collapse, racist tones are creeping back into the political vocabulary in eastern Europe. Roger Boyer investigates. Page 14

Dear father: Somerset Maugham's last years were marked by a family feud, but his only child's love remains undiminished. Page 15

MIND AND MATTER
Spare flesh: Are we really what we eat? Junk food and a lazy life may play a part in obesity, but increasingly scientists believe genes may control weight. Page 12

SPORT

Football: Ruud Gullit's debut as Chelsea manager finished in a scoreless draw with Southampton at The Dell. Pages 24-27

Cricket: England have called up Robert Croft, Glamorgan's off spinner, and dropped wicketkeeper Jack Russell for the final Test against Pakistan. Page 29

Golf: Emilee Klein, of the United States, won the Women's British Open Championship by seven strokes at Woburn. Page 28

Rugby union: New Zealand are poised for an historic series victory in South Africa after winning the opening tour match. Page 35

Equestrianism: Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, 61, won his third Silk Cut Derby at Hickstead. Page 29

Paralympics: In Atlanta, Simon Jackson, the partially sighted judo fighter from Rochdale, won the gold medal again. Page 35

Racing: Lanfranco Dettori, the champion jockey, capped a brilliant comeback by winning the Prix Morny at Deauville on Bahamian Bounty. Page 32

NATIONAL LOTTERY

2, 28, 33, 39, 42, 44. Bonus: 46.
One winner collects the £8.9 million jackpot. Another 18 tickets with five numbers and the bonus win £152,891 each. Five numbers earn 1,023 winners £1,681, and 66,807 with four collect £56.

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Trekies can tune in to the pilot with Jeffrey Hunter in *Star Trek: The Cage* (BBC2, 6.25).
Review: Peter Barnard finds lessons to be learnt from the Dionne quintuplets' lives. Page 43

OPINION

Stars and snipes

Mr Howard has to ally suspicions that this is but the first step towards an ID card that tells the State more than it has any business to know. Page 19

Bureaucratic haze

The summer's heat is here again, and so is the noxious cocktail that reddens eyes and kills asthmatics. Last year's promises have disappeared into a bureaucratic haze as thick and unpleasant as that over city centres. Page 19

Escape from Kandahar

Who did not rejoice with the seven dare-devil Russian hostages at their courageous escape from captivity in Afghanistan? It was a story worthy of James Bond, Indiana Jones or even Biggles. Page 19

COLUMNS

ROBERT BLAKE

Historically, the Conservatives have been seriously fragmented only when there is a question of policy so important and divisive that a really substantial group feels a major national interest is at stake. Page 18

PETER RIDDELL

The Government ought to be welcoming the utility regulators' activism as a means to highlight privatisation, one of its few big successes since 1979. Page 18

OBITUARIES

The Very Rev Eric Evans. Dean of St Paul's, Anne Kristen, Scottish actress; Professor Tadeus Reichstein, Nobel-prizewinning pharmacologist. Page 21

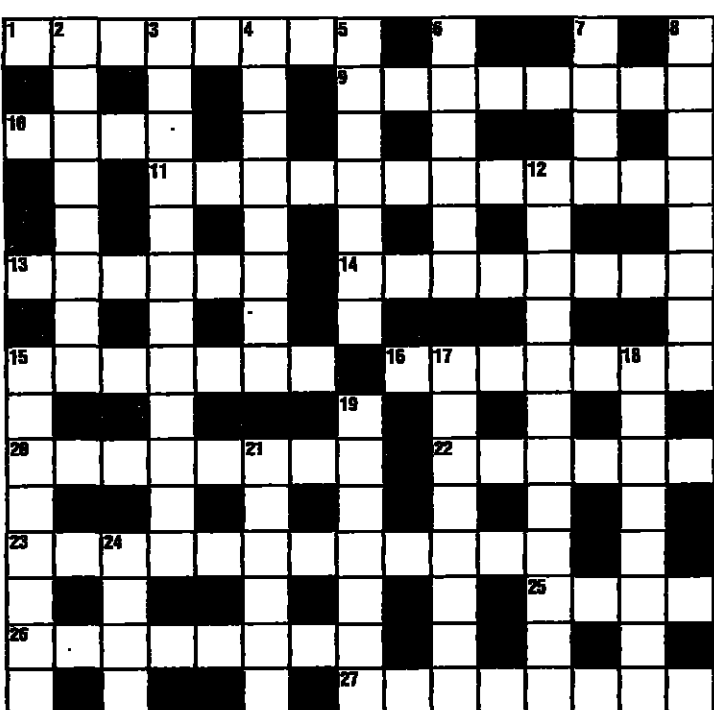
LETTERS

Collapse of civic identity: Roman Britain: changing gun laws; marriage vows; abortion; bell-ringing. Page 19

THE PAPERS

History is not proving a good adviser to King Hussein of Jordan. The popular explosions over bread prices are a carbon copy of the 1989 riots. — *La Repubblica*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,250



ACROSS

- 1 As secret ring I organised could be (8).
- 9 Snake skin carried by a northern woman (8).
- 10 Tongue some devour dutifully (4).
- 11 Wood, for example? Yes and no (2-7).
- 13 Stories about the goddess (6).
- 14 National appeal involving Scandinavians (8).
- 15 Savvy lady's skirts in latest fashion (7).
- 16 Unrivalled Liberal dropped titled woman (7).
- 20 Continental converts are one-up (8).
- 22 Excursion requiring road toll (6).
- 23 Humble outlook of one threatened by the beak? (5,3,4).
- 25 Woman accommodating pupil? (4).

DOWN

- 2 For example, grandfather's account (8).
- 27 Clearly taken by surprise, though alert (4-4).
- 2 Southern writer and athlete (8).
- 3 What might produce raging torrents and mud around Holyhead? (12).
- 4 It's precipitately produced by an artist during the autumn (8).
- 5 Critical comment written inside cover for gallery (7).
- 6 Forthright contender dined out (6).
- 7 Flavour turned up - possible cause of strain when swallowing (4).
- 8 Impartiality deserved only by the brave? (8).
- 12 Like Mary, say - prudent, on the other hand (12).
- 15 Part of guitar composition, possibly a good deal ornamented (8).
- 17 One sitting in a pit surrounded by river (8).
- 18 Rudely confident (8).
- 19 Big fire in Rio ultimately consuming plant (7).
- 21 Female adviser raised capital to support, say, queen (6).
- 24 Draw the line as judge? (4).

ABERLOUP

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle

No 20,249 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 550 followed by appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	70-72
East of England	70-72
South East	70-72
West of England	70-72
North East	70-72
North West	70-72
Yorkshire	70-72
East Midlands	70-72
West Midlands	70-72
East of Scotland	70-72
West of Scotland	70-72
Wales	70-72
North Wales	70-72
South Wales	70-72
London	70-72
South East	70-72
West of England	70-72
North East	70-72
North West	70-72
Yorkshire	70-72
East Midlands	70-72
West Midlands	70-72
East of Scotland	70-72
West of Scotland	70-72
Wales	70-72
North Wales	70-72
South Wales	70-72

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	70-72
East of England	70-72
South East	70-72
West of England	70-72
North East	70-72
North West	70-72
Yorkshire	70-72
East Midlands	70-72
West Midlands	70-72
East of Scotland	70-72
West of Scotland	70-72
Wales	70-72
North Wales	70-72
South Wales	70-72
London	70-72
South East	70-72
West of England	70-72
North East	70-72
North West	70-72
Yorkshire	70-72
East Midlands	70-72
West Midlands	70-72
East of Scotland	70-72
West of Scotland	70-72
Wales	70-72
North Wales	70-72
South Wales	70-72

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.53 am Sun sets: 8.15 pm
Moon sets: 10.10 pm Moon rises: 11.21 am

FORECAST

General: Much of England and Wales will be very hot with long sunny spells, but the west and southwest will become cloudier, with an increasing risk of thundery showers. Light winds will keep coasts a bit fresher, but may turn gusty in showers.

North East: Mostly cloudy, with showers or periods of rain, some heavy. The Northern Isles will be rather grey and misty, but eastern parts of mainland Scotland will be very warm with some sunshine. Showers likely later. Winds no more than moderate.

London, SE, Cent S, E, Cent N, England, E Anglia, Midlands: Dry with sunny spells, prolonged in places. Wind SE light or moderate. Very hot. Cooler on coasts. Max 28C to 31C (82F to 88F).

Channel Is, SW England, Wales: Sunny intervals. Increasing risk of thundery showers. Wind S or variable mainly light.

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Aberdeen	6.5	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5
Algeria	27	81	4	75	5	5

NOON TODAY



HIGHEST & LOWEST

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Aberdeen	6.5	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
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Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
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Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
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Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5

TODAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Aberdeen	6.5	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Aberdeen	6.5	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
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Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5
Aberdeen	11.7	0.01	24	75	5	5

HIGHEST & LOWEST

HIGHEST			
TODAY	AM	HT	PM
London Bridge	4:39	6:8	4:46
Aberdeen	4:55	4:0	2:32
Cardiff	9:52	1:0	10:51
Cardiff	9:52	1:36	1:54
Cardiff	9:36	1:31	1:51
Doncaster	8:33	4:9	8:40
Doncaster	8:33	4:9	8:40
Dublin (N Wall)	2:06	6:4	2:32
Edinburgh	7:36	4:8	7:33
Edinburgh	7:36	4:8	7:33
Harrow	3:17	3:4	3:39
Harrow	3:17	3:4	3:39
Holyhead	0:47	5:3	1:11
Holyhead	0:47	5:3	1:11
London (D)	8:38	9:5	8:47
London (D)	8:38	9:5	8:47
London (D)	8:38	9:5	8:47
London (D)	8:38	9:5	8:47
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